



SCAN

Saturday Mar 6 1982 35p

match

WEEKLY

JOHN WILE

**'Medals
don't
bother
me'**

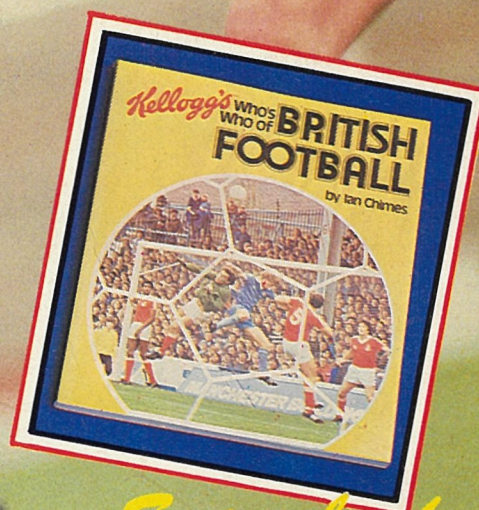
**SPECIAL
REPORT
NORTH
EAST
SOCCER**

**MIKE
HAZARD**

**'Why I want
Ossie to go'**

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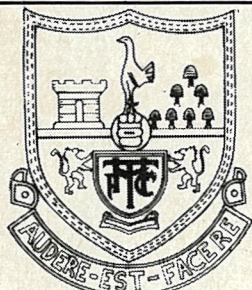




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FRONT COVER CAPTION:
West Brom skipper John
Wile (featured on page 7)
heads clear from West
Ham's Paul Goddard.

The Paul

MY CUP

DON'T rule me out of the World Cup Finals.

That's my fighting message to all those people
who have already written me off for the rest of
the season.

I may have taken one of the biggest gambles of my
life in having the Achilles tendon operation so near to
the Finals, but I haven't given up hope of leading the
England attack this summer.

Time may be running out for me, but when you are facing
one of the most traumatic periods of your life, you must retain
hope and targets.

I've pencilled in my comeback for the beginning of April and
that would give me two months to show England manager
Ron Greenwood that I'm still the number one choice.

So my advice to my closest rivals, Trevor Francis, Cyrille
Regis and Peter Withe, is crystal-clear . . . you won't get my
England shirt without a real fight.

I can't bear to think what my
feelings will be if I fail in my
attempt to regain my place in the
England squad.

Surely there couldn't be a
bigger blow for a footballer than
to miss the World Cup Finals
after helping your country to
qualify.

Just a few months ago, I was
on top of the world having

scored the winner against
Hungary that guaranteed our
ticket to Spain.

Now, as England prepare for
the world's greatest soccer
show, I'm on crutches and facing
an uphill battle to regain my
place in the squad.

It was a strange, empty feeling
not to see my name in the
England party for the British

Championship clash with
Northern Ireland last week.

Ron Greenwood contacted the
Ipswich club the day before the
squad was announced to see
how I was progressing.

It was a typical gesture by the
England boss. He's a very
sensitive and understanding
person and it was comforting to
know as I entered hospital that I
was still part of his thinking.

My absence from the England
squad really came home to me
on the Sunday night as I lay in
my hospital bed.

I kept thinking about what the
lads would be doing as they
reported at the London
headquarters, and I must admit
that I felt pretty low.

It was even worse to be sitting
in hospital and listening to the
commentary instead of being at
Wembley and involved in the
event.

Although I have taken
something of a World Cup
gamble, I didn't face any real

**6 If I had carried
on much longer, my
whole career could
have been in
jeopardy 9**

alternative but to have surgery.

I've been troubled by the ankle
for about twelve months, and it
got to the stage where I was no
longer doing myself or the club
any favours.

Last season I was managing to
get through games, sometimes
with the aid of a painkilling
injection, but for the last four
months I have been suffering.

I've hardly been able to train
this season, and, when I have, I
have ended up limping.

Ron Greenwood obviously
knew I wasn't 100 per cent fit for
the crucial World Cup clash with
Hungary.

Although he never discussed
the situation with me, he had
consultations with England
physio Fred Streete and
obviously knew about the
problems.



Manchester City striker Trevor Francis — he took Paul Mariner's place
against Northern Ireland last week.

Mariner column

WORLD GAMBLE

IPSWICH and England centre forward PAUL MARINER lays in a hospital bed this week preparing for the fight of his life.

Here, in his regular Match Weekly column, he tells all about the injury which threatened to wreck his World Cup hopes and the operation which he describes as 'one of the biggest gambles of my life' . . . EXCLUSIVE!

I hope that I repaid his faith in me by scoring that vital goal.

The prospect of an operation has always been in the back of my mind, though one always hopes that the injury will clear itself with treatment.

But the problem has gradually got worse, and, if I had carried on much longer, my whole career could have been in jeopardy.

There was a distinct danger that the tendon could have snapped and that would have been a far longer job, so that thought has at least provided me with some comfort.

The decision regarding an operation came to a head after our 4-0 First Division drubbing at Liverpool last month.

I was playing like a Third or Fourth Division player, and near the end I felt a twinge in my ankle as I sprinted for a ball.

A week's intensive treatment failed to ease the problem, and I was left with no alternative but to have surgery.

And when they take the knife to you, it's the last resort. You know then that it's going to be a long job.

But I didn't really hesitate in going ahead with the operation.

I just wanted it over with as soon as possible in an attempt to regain the kind of form I was showing a year ago.

Now I just hope and pray that there will be no complications as I start on the long road to fitness.

Then I face the job of not only trying to win back my England place, but to get back into the Ipswich side.

Young Mich D'Avray has made a big impression in the side during my absence, and I am more than pleased for the lad.

I believe the teenage South African has the potential to be an excellent First Division player and I have helped him all I could since he came to Portman Road.

Now it seems ironic that I have helped bring on a young player who could make it difficult for

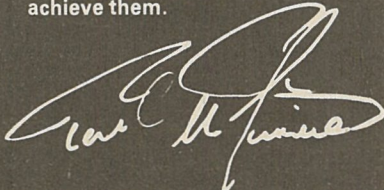
6 I may have taken one of the biggest gambles of my life 9

me to return to the Ipswich team.

But it's no use worrying about that situation until nearer the time when I am ready to return to help Ipswich's bid to win the First Division championship.

I hope to make my comeback game in the reserves against Crystal Palace on March 30, and I would love to think that I'll be ready for First Division action on the day we visit FA Cup holders Tottenham on April 10.

Those are my targets . . . now all I can do is hope and pray that I achieve them.



● Paul Mariner was talking to Melvyn Beck.



Paul Mariner — "I can't bear to think what my feelings will be if I fail to regain my place in the England squad."

The first of 'eight'

DEFENDER Trevor Tainton, one of the Bristol City 'eight' who tore up their contracts to save the club from bankruptcy, has joined Fourth Division Torquay.

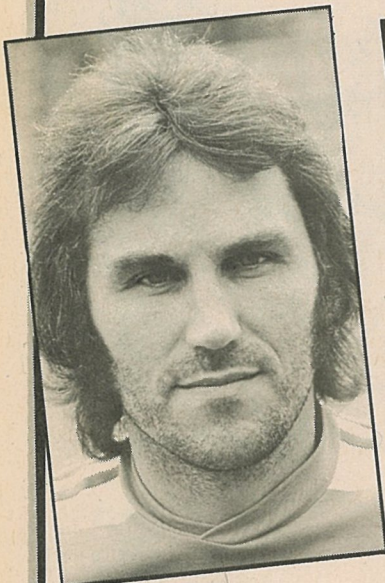
He's the first of the players to join another club, although two others, Geoff Merrick and Chris Garland are considering offers from Hong Kong.

Your guide to Spain

IF you're going to Spain for the World Cup Finals, then a pocket-size guide called "Welcome to Spain" might prove useful.

Published by Collins at a cost of £1.95, it provides the essential information on the cities, facilities, food and drink, entertainment and sightseeing.

Francis bids for Wembley



FORMER England skipper Gerry Francis has decided to join First Division Coventry after all.

When he rejoined manager Dave Sexton on a month's loan, he said he was reluctant to move out of London because of his many business commitments.

But First Division action whetted his appetite and he decided to sign on a permanent basis for £150,000 from Queen's Park Rangers.

And now there is the distinct possibility of him leading Coventry into an F.A. Cup Final.

Gerry skippered the side in the Fifth Round defeat of Oxford in the absence of Republic of Ireland international Gerry Daly.

Docherty's Brentford link

CAMBRIDGE United manager John Docherty is the only man in the Football League — in any capacity — who has had four separate spells with one club.

The club concerned is Brentford and as a player, coach or manager, he moved in this sequence — Brentford, Sheffield United, Brentford, Reading, Brentford, Q.P.R., Brentford.

Football festival

FOR the second year running, the British Tourist Authority is promoting an international youth football festival in Aberdeen.

Footballers between the ages of 13 and 18 will compete for the Bank of Scotland Cup between August 1 and 8.

Last year teams from Germany, Venezuela, Sweden and America took part, but it was Aberdeen who took the honours.

Webb's about-turn

BURLY Dave Webb used to make the headlines as a player with Chelsea and Derby, and he continues to make them as a manager with Fourth Division Bournemouth.

Dave handed in his resignation after a row with the chairman following his club's 5-1 thrashing of York City which kept them right in the promotion hunt.

But within a couple of days Dave was back behind his desk at Dean Court having torn up his resignation.

Ferguson's tonic

FOOTBALL fans in Guernsey had the rare treat recently of a visit from Everton to play local side Vale Recreation.

The First Division team didn't disappoint the islanders.

They swept to a 7-0 victory with hat-tricks from Mick Ferguson and Graeme Sharp. Full-back Brian Borrows scored the other goal.

And it proved just the tonic for Borrows and Ferguson.

Borrows made his League debut a few days later in the goalless draw with Stoke and Ferguson was recalled to replace the injured Peter Eastoe after a lengthy absence.

Blackburn reunion

FORMER Coventry striker Donal Murphy has teamed up again with Blackburn manager Bobby Saxton.

He has joined the Second Division promotion seekers on a free transfer from Plymouth.

Cup milestone

IT'S 55 years since the Second Division had five representatives in the Quarter-Finals of the FA Cup.

And it's 51 years since there were only three First Division teams left at this stage of the competition.

Leeds double

TWO of Leeds' newest professionals — Mike Imlach and David Seaman — can celebrate together... they were both born on September 19.

Mike is a 19-year-old full-back and the son of former Nottingham Forest and Scotland winger Stewart Imlach who played in the 1959 FA Cup Final, while goalkeeper David is one year younger.

Second time for Shinton

NEWCASTLE striker Bobby Shinton is trying his luck with Third Division Millwall.

The former Cambridge, Wrexham and Manchester City forward has joined the Londoners on loan.

He made his debut in the 5-1 defeat of Exeter, but had to take a back seat to Tony Tagg who collected a hat-trick in only his second appearance since the beginning of October.

It's the second time Bobby has been on loan to Millwall. He had a five-match period there before his £175,000 move from Manchester City to Newcastle in March 1980.



COMEDIAN Don Maclean is seen presenting the Omega/Variety Club 'Team of the Month' award for December to West Brom manager Ronnie Allen.

Apart from the mementoes, the Albion manager received a cheque for £2,000 which will go to the Variety Club Sunshine Coach scheme.

Mullery on course

CHARLTON manager Alan Mullery has launched weekly residential football courses for boys between 10 and 15.

He will be helped on the courses by Tottenham skipper Steve Perryman, and fellow managers Emlyn Hughes (Rotherham), Jack Charlton (Sheffield Wednesday) and Malcolm Macdonald (Fulham).

The courses will be held during the summer holidays.

Subbuteo dates

THE battle is on in the Subbuteo soccer world to earn a place in this summer's World Cup Finals in Barcelona. Here are the dates and venues for the regional and national finals:

March 6, John Menzies Ltd, 1 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; March 13, London (venue to be arranged); March 20, Wonderland (Crossgates), Arndale Centre, Leeds; March 27, Welsh Finals, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff; April 3, Northern Ireland Finals, Europa Hotel, Belfast; April 17, English Finals, London (venue to be arranged).

ENGLAND HAS THE LAST LAUGH!

WALES manager Mike England must be smiling with satisfaction at the rapid progress made by new Liverpool star Ian Rush.

The Welsh boss has been criticised in the past for continually naming the youngster in his international squads when he was only in the reserves at Anfield.

But Ian's goal rush since Christmas, that has helped re-establish Liverpool among the title challengers, has underlined the Welsh manager's faith in the former Chester forward.

After Rush's selection as the Robinson's Barley Water 'Young Player of the Month' for January, Mr England commented: "I've had Ian in the Wales squad ever since I took over — and there were some who didn't agree with that."

"He's now blossoming into the player we thought he was — and we can look forward to a very successful international career for him."

Ian has been capped three times,

twice as a substitute. His only full appearance was against Northern Ireland nearly two years ago.

But with Wales now looking ahead to the 1986 World Cup, Ian will no doubt be a key figure when they begin their European Championship qualifying matches later this year.

England manager Ron Greenwood backed up Mike England's comments by saying:

"Ian is a lethal finisher, and, now he's fitting in, it's nice to see him fulfil the promise he showed when Bob Paisley signed him."

Regional winners for January were: North West — Vince Overson (Burnley); North East — Wesley Saunders (Newcastle); Yorkshire — Gary Bannister (Sheffield Wednesday); Midlands — Brian Kilcline (Notts County); London and South — John Barnes (Watford); Wales and West — Chris Marustik (Swansea).



Ian Rush — proving Wales manager Mike England was right.

HONG KONG 'HUTCH'

TOMMY Hutchison and Phil Boyer, two of Manchester City's experienced forwards, have joined Hong Kong club Bulova on a three-month loan period.

Scottish winger Hutchison has been a regular in the City side this season and scored in last year's FA Cup Final at Wembley against Tottenham.

But former Southampton and Norwich striker Boyer has been unable to regain a first team place at Maine Road after a serious knee injury.

They have joined the wealthy Bulova club who recently cancelled the contract of former Southampton striker Charlie George.

Milestone for Craggs

MIDDLESBROUGH defender John Craggs chalked up his 400th League appearance for the struggling North East club in the 1-1 home draw with Swansea.

At least Bobby Murdoch's side picked up a point to mark John's milestone, but they are in desperate need of a few more to avoid the drop into Division Two.

Match Chat

Compiled by Melvyn Beck

Sir Matt elected

FORMER Manchester United manager Sir Matt Busby had been elected vice-president of the Football League.

The 71-year-old director at Old Trafford succeeds the late Burnley chairman Bob Lord.

Double blow

ANGRY at his side's crushing 5-1 defeat at Millwall, Exeter manager Brian Godfrey sent the same eleven players back to the 'Den' a few days later for a reserve game. But they lost 1-0!

'Dons' dismissed!

THIRD Division Wimbledon have no more than five years of Football League experience behind them, but they have had 13 players sent off... that's more than some clubs have had dismissed throughout the 35 post-war seasons.

Managerial merry-go-round

THE West Midlands is not proving to be the most secure place these days for soccer managers.

The sacking of Birmingham's Jim Smith means that all six clubs in that area have changed managers since the end of last season.

The former Colchester and Blackburn boss, who still had two and a half years of his contract to run, became the ninth manager to depart from a League club this year.

Blackpool blues

BLACKPOOL were once one of the biggest names in football.

Now they are in the doldrums in the Fourth Division suffering from falling gates and financial cramp.

They recently sold striker Colin Morris to fellow League rivals Sheffield United for £100,000 in order to raise money, and for the home clash with Mansfield they had the lowest gate in their history — 3,017.

To complete a bad day, Blackpool went down 3-2.

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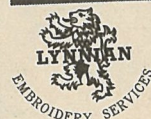
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Shunted out!

... but Osman hopes for a second chance

Our 'Target Spain' spotlight (No. 9 in the series) this week falls on young Ipswich defender Russell Osman.



IPSWICH defender Russell Osman wonders whether he has 'blown' his chance to be the permanent successor to war horse Dave Watson at the heart of the England defence.

The young centre-half has been overlooked by manager Ron Greenwood for the last two international squads after gaining four caps last year.

Since that embarrassing 2-1 World Cup defeat in Norway last September, Russell has been shunted down the queue by West Ham's Alvin Martin and now Brighton's Steve Foster.

And lion-hearted Watson is also making a bold bid for Spain after prolonging his First Division career with a move to Stoke City.

So all Russell can do is wait and hope that he gets another chance to stake his claim.

But his entry into the international arena was hardly paved with gold.

He figured in three losing England teams — at home to Spain and in the Switzerland and Norway debacles — and his other appearance last year was in the goalless stalemate with Rumania at Wembley.

And Russell admits: "Things could have gone better for me."

"The England team wasn't playing particularly well and so it was rather a funny time for a young player to come into the side.

"I didn't have the best possible start to an international career."

But he refuses to get depressed about his omissions from the squad for the crucial World Cup tie with Hungary last November and for the recent clash with Northern Ireland.

"Obviously I was disappointed to be left out of the squad for the Hungary game, but I suppose Mr Greenwood had to make changes after the Norway defeat," says Russell.

"But there is still a long way to go before Spain. A lot of things can happen between now and the summer, and I have just got to hope that I get a second chance.

"Alvin Martin and Steve Foster have come into the squads and they are very good players. All I can do is wish them all the best.

"I can't do any more than keep playing well for Ipswich.

"If the team continues to do well then it will be easier for me to play well and therefore I will stand more chance of an England recall.

"I have tried to keep the England situation at the back of my mind.

"It's fortunate that Ipswich have been deeply involved in different competitions. That has helped to keep my mind off it.

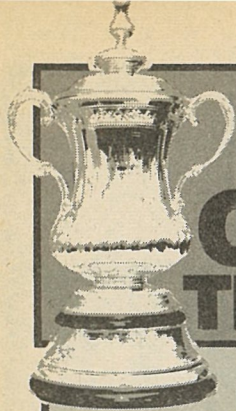
"If we were just a middle of the road side then perhaps I would probably have got a little more depressed."



Russell Osman — "I didn't have the best possible start to an international career."

Right: Brighton's Steve Foster — "He's come into the England squad and I wish him all the best," says Russell Osman.





FA CUP TRAIL

WE'RE back on the road to Wembley with our newly-adopted team West Bromwich Albion.

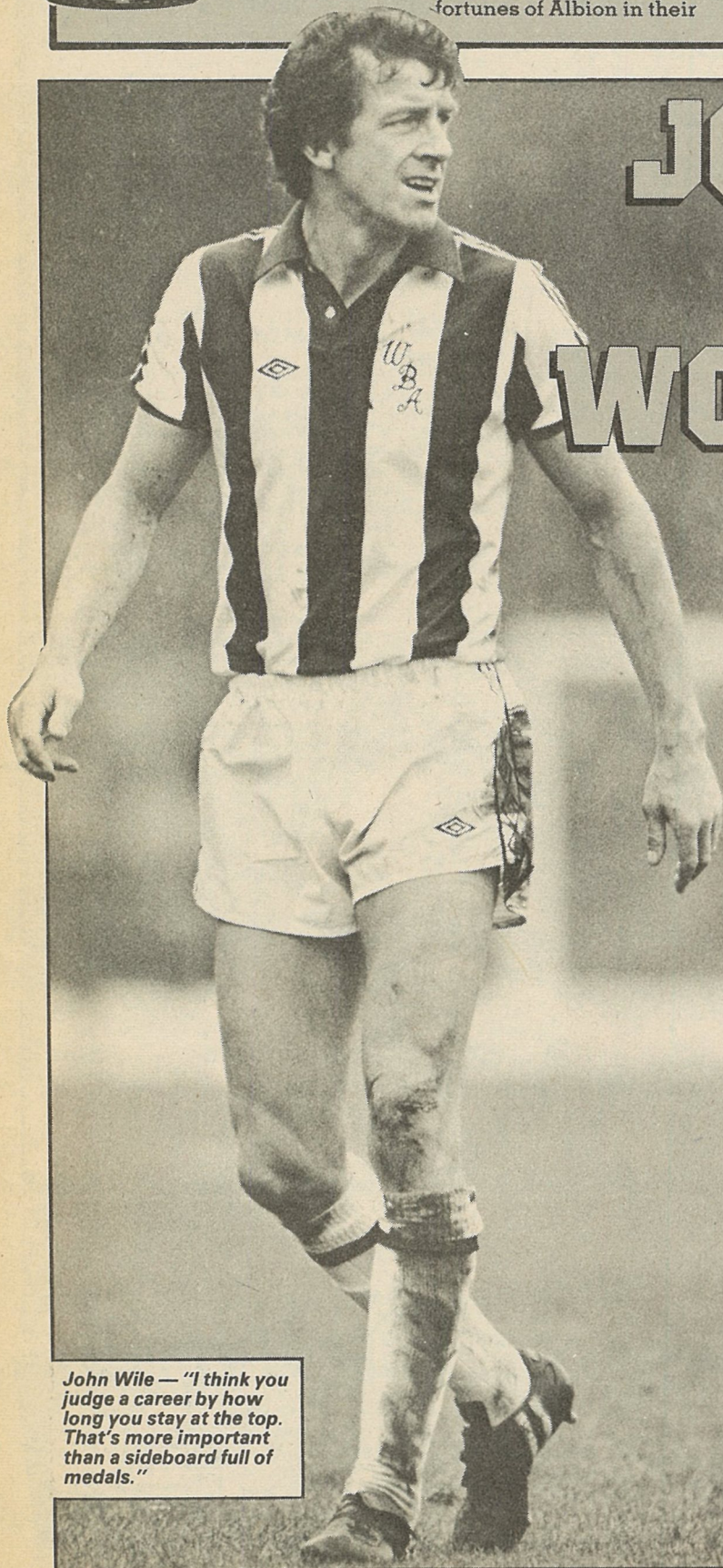
We are now following the First Division club on the FA Cup trail following their Fifth Round home defeat of Norwich City.

So after tiny Penrith, Doncaster Rovers and Norwich, we now follow the fortunes of Albion in their

bid to reach the Semi-Finals at the expense of Midlands rivals Coventry.

We look at their chances of reaching what would be their second Semi-Final this year through their long-serving skipper John Wile, who is still seeking his first major honour in the game after nearly 12 years at The Hawthorns.

ALL THE WAY TO WEMBLEY



JOHN'S WAIT MAY BE WORTH-WILE!

IF West Brom make it all the way to Wembley in the FA Cup, then no-one would begrudge long-serving skipper John Wile his moment of glory.

After nearly 12 years in the Albion first team, the dependable defender is still waiting for his first domestic honour and Wembley appearance.

Now, after being denied a League Cup Final place by Tottenham a few weeks ago, Albion have a second chance to reach Wembley.

The last time they played there was in 1970 when they lost to Queen's Park Rangers in the League Cup Final.

But that final arrived just a few months before John began his long love affair with Albion following a £30,000 move from Peterborough.

So, after around 500 senior games for Albion, most of them in the top flight, John deserves to fulfil his Wembley dream in the twilight of his distinguished career.

Many believe this could be his last chance of achieving every footballer's ambition.

But while he admits that Albion have a golden chance of reaching Wembley, he refuses to believe that winning medals is the most important thing.

"I must admit it would be disappointing if I finished my career without a medal, but I don't think that's the most important thing.

"I think a player should be judged by how long he stays at the top. That's more important than a sideboard full of medals.

"I've been able to play in the First Division for around a decade and to me that's more gratifying than a medal."

Looking ahead to Saturday's Quarter-Final tie, John says: "Having beaten Coventry 2-0 at Highfield Road on Boxing Day, we

have both the psychological and home advantage this time.

"But, having taken all that into account, Coventry are unpredictable. They sprang a real surprise by winning at Manchester City in the Fourth Round, and then lost 5-1 at home to Notts County in the League.

"They have some very talented young players in their own right, but manager Dave Sexton's problem is getting them all hitting form at the same time.

"We struggled at the start of this season because of the upheaval in losing players, but it was just a matter of being patient while new players fitted in.

"Once we got the right men in to do the right job, there was never any doubt that we would do well in all the competitions," says John who was in the Albion side which lost to Ipswich in the 1978 Semi-Finals.

How much longer can John stay at the top?

"People have been asking ever since I reached the age of thirty how long I would carry on.

"At the moment, I've no intention of climbing down while I am capable of doing the job.

"But once I feel I am dropping below the required standard, then I shall make a decision.

"That decision could come next week or in two or three years' time, who knows?"

WEST BROM'S FA CUP RECORD

Third Round — Blackburn (home) 3-2 (Mackenzie, Whitehead, King pen.)

Fourth Round — Gillingham (away) 1-0 (Statham)

Fifth Round — Norwich City (home) 1-0 (Regis)

Now turn over for previews of the three other Quarter-Final ties.

John Wile — "I think you judge a career by how long you stay at the top. That's more important than a sideboard full of medals."

YOUNG GETS A WHIFF OF WEMBLEY

LEICESTER striker Alan Young has vowed never to go to Wembley... unless it's to play!

And the trip down the famous Wembley Way could come much sooner than expected if Leicester overcome what looks to be the easiest Quarter-Final pairing against Shrewsbury at Filbert Street.

"I've always said that I'll never go there unless I'm playing and I don't think I'll ever get a better chance than I have now," said Alan, who set Leicester on the FA Cup trail with two goals in their shock 3-1 Third Round win over Southampton.

"If I'd made the draw myself I couldn't have done a better job. I was having my car repaired when I heard the draw. I felt like doing a couple of backflips across the garage forecourt!

"Shrewsbury are going to be very difficult to beat. Their confidence will be sky-high after their win over Ipswich, but at this stage a home draw is very important and we've got it."

The two teams have yet to meet in the Second Division this season and their last clash was in Leicester's promotion year of 1980 when Jock Wallace's side won 2-0.

"I scored after just 30 seconds in that game," recalled Alan. "A repeat of that would suit me fine."

The Scot believes that Leicester can go all the way to

the Final this season. "I can already smell the hot dogs and hamburgers down Wembley Way," he says.

"After our win over Southampton I had a feeling this could be our year in the Cup. We've hit form at the right time.

"We're now playing our best football of the season. The Cup run has put fire in our bellies and helped our push for promotion back to the First Division.

"Everyone wants to play and do well. The reserve team is playing cracking football as the lads try desperately to break into the full side.

"It would be a very difficult decision to make if I was faced with the choice of promotion or a place in an FA Cup Final.

"Obviously getting back to the top flight is the important thing for the club, but the FA Cup has that special appeal to the players and fans."

A cartilage operation and just one goal in the League (against Bolton) have spelt an indifferent season for Alan, but he's shone in the FA Cup with a goal a game record.

"I'd love to finish this season's campaign with a goal a game," added Alan, who scored his club's second in their 2-0 win over giant-killers Watford in the last round.

"This is the furthest I've ever got in the FA Cup. The previous best was back in 1978-79 season when I was at Oldham.

"The Leicester fans won't like me to remind them that I scored a hat-trick against the club in Oldham's 3-1 win," he said.

Left: Leicester's Alan Young — "I can already smell the hot dogs and hamburgers down Wembley Way."



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SIZES/COLOURS ENCLOSE £



Steve Wicks and QPR's Mike Flanagan during their League meeting earlier this season.

RONNIE Allen (manager of West Brom) and Terry Venables (manager of Q.P.R.) each stand a chance of joining an elite club this year. If either takes their respective team to FA Cup victory, another name will be added to the nine who have won the Cup both as players and managers.

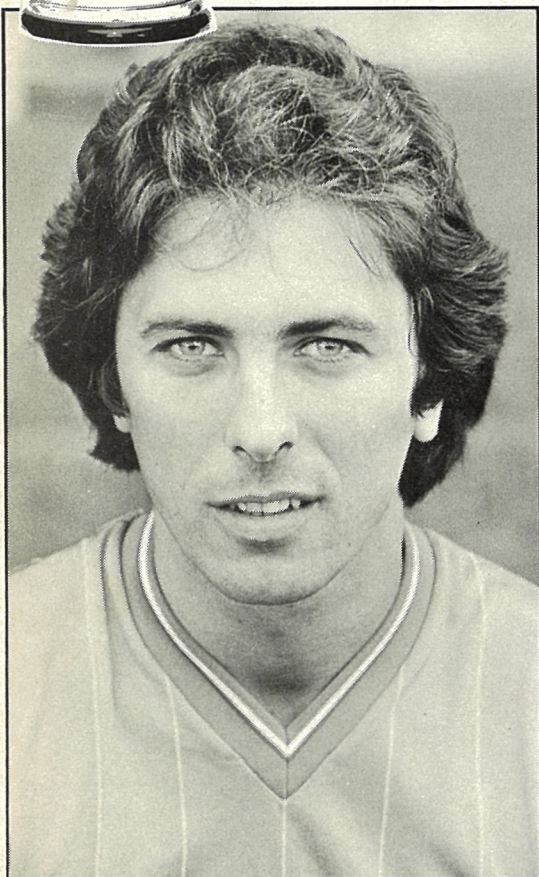
IT'S the first time since 1922/23 that London has had four clubs in the Sixth Round. Two of the clubs involved in the last eight all those years ago — Spurs and Q.P.R. — are there again, of course. The other two were Charlton and West Ham.



FA CUP TRAIL

FA Cup Sixth Round preview — the stars look ahead to the top ties.

● STORIES BY ANTHONY HAWKSWELL



Sad Lee predicts a shock for Spurs

CHELSEA striker Colin Lee has talked of his 'bitter disappointment' at missing out on a dream FA Cup tie against his old club Spurs.

Colin has been suspended for the first time in his career following an incident in Chelsea's League game with Cardiff when he was sent off along with Gary Bennett.

"I've been looking forward to facing Spurs for three years. It still hasn't sunk in that I'll miss the match. It would have been a dream come true for me.

"I've never before been sent off or suspended in my career. The Cardiff incident couldn't have come at a worse time for me. I'm bitterly disappointed at missing the match.

"It's always great to play against your old team-mates and I was looking forward to my first game against Spurs," said Colin, one of the heroes of Chelsea's shock 2-0 win over European Champions Liverpool in the previous round.

"To be honest, I would rather have missed

Left: Chelsea striker Colin Lee — "I don't see why we can't pull off another shock result."

the Liverpool game than this one. Playing against Spurs would have meant so much to me," he admitted.

"There's no bad feeling between me and Tottenham. I made a lot of good friends there and many of them will be on duty at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

"I was disappointed that I didn't produce the form for Spurs that I know I'm capable of, but I let a lot of silly things get on top of me at White Hart Lane.

"The crowd used to get on my back and I let it bother me. If I got the same sort of treatment now, I'd ignore it," added Colin.

Spurs signed Colin from Torquay in October 1977 and he made a sensational debut when he scored four goals in a 9-0 hammering of Bristol Rovers in the season the North London club roared back into the First Division.

Colin's career failed to live up to the high expectations, however, and he joined Chelsea in March 1980 after making 60 League appearances and scoring 18 goals for Spurs.

"I don't think I've got anything to prove to my old club. I still believe I'm good enough for the First Division," he said.

Colin is a great admirer of his old team and still goes to watch them when he can. He said: "On their day, they are the best team in the country.

"I rate Glenn Hoddle as the best midfield player around. If he was an Argentinian he'd be in the same class as Diego Maradona.

"If we stop Glenn playing we stop Spurs. That's why it's so important that we close down their midfield. We did the same thing against Liverpool and won.

"If Spurs have a weakness, it's in the centre of their defence. Graham Roberts and Paul Miller aren't very quick and we could catch them on the break.

"We're full of confidence after our win over Liverpool and if we can reproduce the same aggressive, determined performance as we did in the Fifth Round, I don't see why we can't pull off another shock result.

"It will be terrible having to watch the game from the stands, I'll be more nervous than if I was playing," added Colin.

"A Second Division team won't get a better chance of going to Wembley and it would be unbelievable if we could make it.

"But the players aren't thinking about the famous twin towers yet. We know that Spurs are going to provide us with perhaps our toughest task yet," he said.

● **Don't miss the FA Cup views of West Ham striker David Cross, who names his final four in his regular column on pages 22 and 23 of this week's issue.**

Palace braves aim to ruffle Rangers

QPR's synthetic turf holds no fears for their FA Cup Quarter-Final opponents Crystal Palace.

Their blond central defender Steve Wicks says: "We'd play on cement or broken glass to reach the Semi-Finals!"

Steve joined Palace from Rangers for £700,000 in the close season and one of the main reasons for the move was that he didn't want to play on the new-style pitch.

But he says: "This match is far too important to worry about the turf. We won't think twice about going into a sliding tackle.

"We're just 180 minutes away from a dream appearance at Wembley. We won't let the surface at Loftus Road affect our performance.

"When we played there earlier this season, we were scared of it and we paid for our fear by losing 1-0.

"But this game will be different because there's so much at stake. If we show the kind of commitment we did against Orient in the previous round, I'm sure we'll come away with a result."

Steve admits that a return to Loftus Road will be an ordeal for him, but he says: "I'll put it to the back of my mind. When I returned earlier this season, the crowd were good to me.

"We've got enough to worry about without inventing things. I believe Rangers are the best side in the Second Division.

"Simon Stainrod scored the goal which beat us in the League and he's a player I've always admired. I'll have my hands full against him.

"But they have so many class players that I'm sure they'll get promoted to the First Division this season," he added.

Palace's Cup run has helped compensate for their indifferent form in the Second Division this season.

"We were all hoping that we could bounce back to the top flight at our first attempt, but it hasn't worked out that way. We're at the wrong end of the table.

"The Cup has created a certain atmosphere within the club. It's given us a lift and we're all determined to progress as far as possible."

JOHN O'NEILL

Focus on Leicester's Northern Ireland international defender . . .

FULL NAME: John Patrick O'Neill.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Derry, March 11, 1958.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft. 11¾ins./13st.
MARRIED: No.
CAR: V.W. Passat.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Derry Athletic FC.
CLUB NICKNAME: John-Jo
WORST EVER INJURY: Cartilage operation in September 1980.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Peter Withe — he's so difficult to play against.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Tottenham.

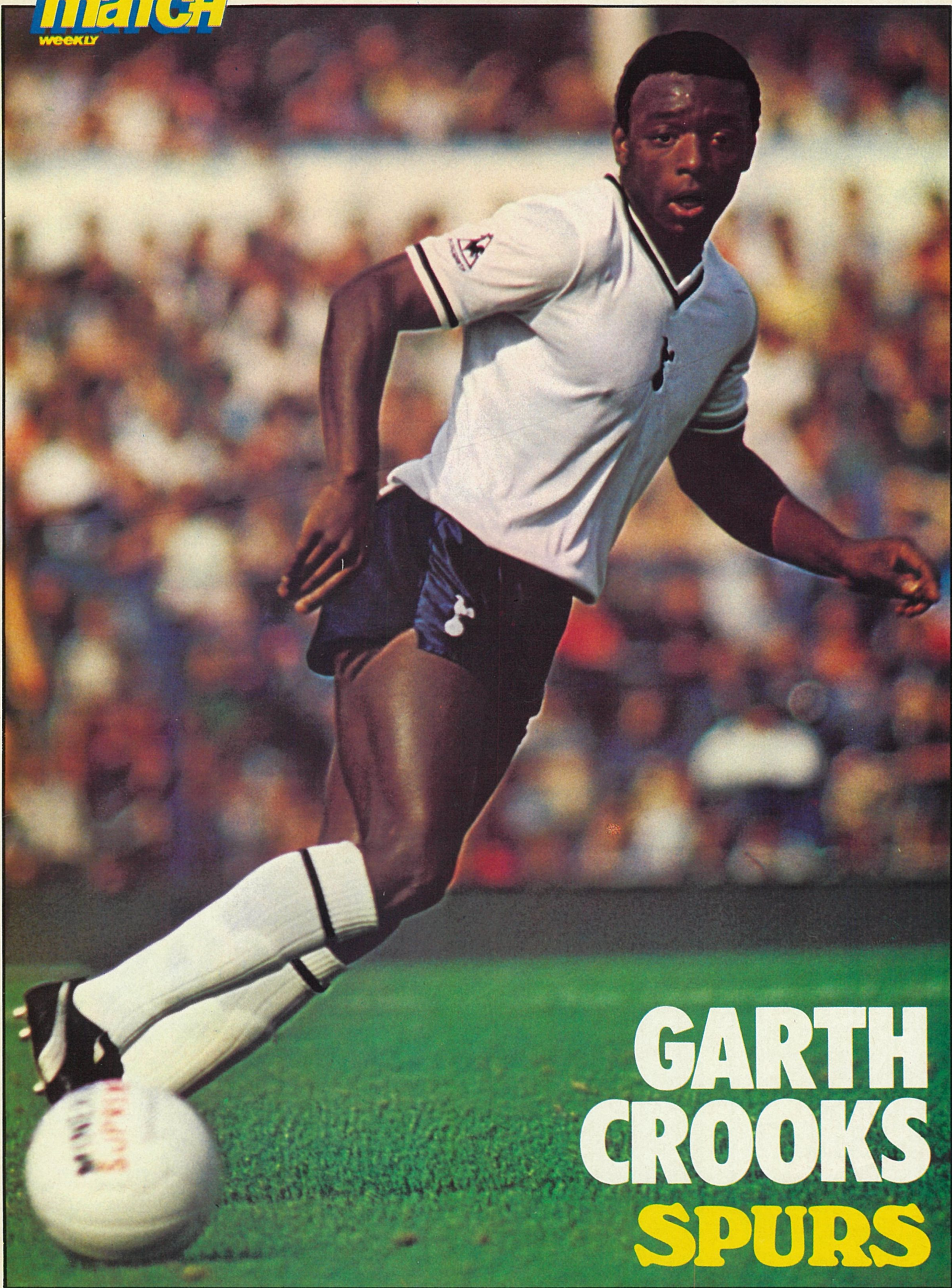
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Franz Beckenbauer — he's won every honour in the game.
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH TEAM: Jennings, Gidman, Cooper, Moore, England, Giles, Keegan, Best, R. Charlton, Law, Greaves.
ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Jennings (N. Ireland), Carlos Alberto (Brazil), Breitner, Beckenbauer (both W. Germany), Moore (England), Best (N. Ireland), Giles (Eire), R. Charlton (England), Pele (Brazil), Muller (W. Germany), Eusebio (Portugal).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Old Trafford.

FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Stadium of Light, Portugal.
BEST GOAL SCORED: Against Leeds last season in the 2-1 win at Elland Road.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Ricky Villa's winning goal for Tottenham in last season's FA Cup Final replay against Manchester City.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Peter Withe.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Defeating Liverpool 2-0 at Filbert Street last season.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Squash and golf.

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Chess, cinema, reading and music.
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Smoking.
FAVOURITE READING: Robert Ludlum.
FAVOURITE POP STAR: Genesis and Kim Carnes.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak Diane.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Coffee.
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Australia.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Robert Redford and Felicity Kendall.
BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: Apocalypse Now.
BEST FRIEND: My girl friend Marie.
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Derry manager Jim O'Hea.

SUPERSTITIONS: None.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Steak.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Fourteen full caps and one Under 21 cap.
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy.
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win as many honours as possible.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Leicester's Paul Ramsey.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Pele.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Always try to improve.





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SPURS**

SWOP SHOP

OFFER: Two annuals and two quiz books.

WANTS: Complete QPR strip — chest size 32" to 34".

Simon Jenkins, 7 Talbot Road, Knowle, Bristol, BS4 2NE.

OFFER: Stoke woollen scarf.

WANTS: 1971-72 League Cup Final programme (Stoke v Chelsea).

Adrian Andrews, 13 Brookway, Burgess Hill, West Sussex.

OFFER: Selection of Arsenal, West Ham and Spurs souvenirs.

WANTS: Anything to do with Pat Jennings or Bob Wilson.

Dawn Gibson, 20 Ramsey Walk, Islington, London, N12RE.

OFFER: Liverpool shirt (34" to 36") and 60 posters.

WANTS: Fifty assorted programmes.

James Morgan, 78 Wenallt Road, Rhiwbina, Cardiff, CF4 6SE.

OFFER: 1981 World Youth Cup Final programme.

WANTS: 1971 or '81 FA Cup Final programme.

Kevin Diggerson, 35 Thames Promenade, Chelsea 3196, Victoria, Australia.

OFFER: Norwich City woollen and silk scarves and mirror.

WANTS: 1966 and 1981 FA Cup Final programmes and Rotherham badges.

Nigel Culyer, 16 Bridle Close, Lane End, Chapeltown, Near Sheffield, Yorks.

OFFER: 400 assorted stickers and cards.

WANTS: West Ham souvenirs and programmes.

Daniel Taylor, 2 Canterbury Avenue, Cranbrook, Ilford, Essex, IGI 3NA.

OFFER: 1981 Ipswich, Man. Utd and Crystal Palace annuals plus 1980 Liverpool annual.

WANTS: Autographed Steve Perryman testimonial programme and June 14, 1980 Match Weekly.

Jane Lipscombe, 34 Thorncroft, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 1EU.

OFFER: Pictures of Glenn Hoddle, Paul Mariner, Kevin Keegan, Kenny Dalglish and Arsenal badges.

WANTS: Any pictures of Frank Stapleton.

Karen Harper, 110 High Street, Shafton, Barnsley, Yorks.

OFFER: 1978 FA Cup Final and 1981 League Cup final programmes plus England scarf.

WANTS: Spurs v QPR programme (FA Cup third round replay, 1980-81).

K. Sullivan, 57 Stafford Road, Newport, Gwent, NPT 7DR.

SWOP SHOP

WE ARE GOOD

ONLY twice this century has the North East — a traditional hotbed of soccer — been without a Division One representative.

But the signs are that next season Middlesbrough, Sunderland and Newcastle will be bidding to recapture former glories in the Second Division.

Both Middlesbrough and Sunderland are in search of a near miracle to escape relegation.

And Newcastle, famed Cup giants in the fifties, are struggling to remove the shackles of Second Division existence.

Bobby Murdoch's Middlesbrough side haven't won a First Division match since they beat Stoke at Ayresome Park at the end of September . . . and all signs point to the Second Division

Sunderland, who just avoided the trap door last season by winning at, of all places, Liverpool need another Houdini-type act to save themselves again.

It's a frustrating sight for new manager Alan Durban who has watched his side fail to score in 15 of their 25 League games.

Such is the price of their failings that they couldn't afford to invest in Manchester United's £250,000-rated defender Jimmy Nicholl, one experienced player who might have helped their plight.

Middlesbrough, having lost their entire midfield — Craig Johnston (to Liverpool), Mark Proctor (Nottingham Forest) and David Armstrong (Southampton) plus top scorer Bozo Jankovic (to France) — since last season are soldiering on with mainly home-produced players who are suffering growing pains in the top flight.

Here Middlesbrough's experienced goalkeeper Jim Platt and his Northern Ireland team mate Jimmy Nicholl, the full-back who wanted to aid Sunderland's cause, talk about the future facing the two big North East clubs . . . and say why they believe a drop into the Second Division — should it happen — may turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

Next week we continue our Special Report on the North East with an in-depth look at the fortunes of Newcastle United.

NORTHERN IRELAND goalkeeper Jim Platt signed a new contract at the beginning of the season — confident that Middlesbrough could land him his first major domestic honour.

Now, as he surveys the rest of the First Division from the foot of the table, he is virtually resigned to playing in Division Two next season.

"You never give up hope in this game, but it looks as though we need a miracle to save us," says the long-serving 'keeper who will be Pat Jennings' deputy in the World Cup Finals.

"Maybe the signing of a couple of players could make all the difference. It would lift the players and the supporters, but there's not much money around.

"The dilemma is that you could buy a couple of players and still go down, although they would probably help you get back again.

"I honestly thought the club was

NORTH EAST FOOTBALL



NORTHERN Ireland defender Jimmy Nicholl is a victim of Sunderland's decline as a football power.

The full-back has been sent back to Manchester United's reserve team after a two month spell at Roker Park because manager Alan Durban can't afford the £250,000 transfer fee.

Sunderland, once one of the country's best supported teams, are having to survive on crowds of around 16,000 as they face yet another battle against relegation.

And a disillusioned Jimmy says: "Alan Durban told me that he'd have to sell a couple of players before he could buy me. I'm really disappointed that the deal hasn't gone through. I would have liked to have joined Sunderland.

"Money was the last problem I expected to block my move, but I suppose Sunderland are feeling the pinch as much as anyone else," said Jimmy.

"The North East is going through a bad time. It's a depressed football area. To say the fans are desperate for success is an understatement.

"But even though Sunderland were struggling for First Division survival I enjoyed my spell there. There's still a special atmosphere

Left: Jimmy Nicholl — "Sunderland face an almost impossible task, but a drop down into Division Two might not be a bad thing."

JUST NOT ENOUGH

on the verge of doing something, but it's not turned out that way.

"You can't expect to replace overnight players like Mark Proctor, Craig Johnston, David Armstrong and Bozo Jankovic.

"We haven't been playing well enough to survive and one has to be honest and admit that we are just not good enough.

"We need a consistent goalscorer and an old head in midfield to direct the youngsters.

"There's a lot of potential here, but it's going to take time and it may take relegation to the Second Division to sort things out.

"Gates have slumped, and, although the fans haven't been too critical, I believe they have resigned themselves to relegation.

"There's no lack of fighting spirit in the side but one gets sick of losing. It's depressing to think we haven't won a League match since the end of September.

"One of the problems early on

was that we tended to be too attack-conscious in a bid to entertain, and paid the consequences.

"Since we tightened our game a little, teams have found us more difficult to penetrate and one or two matches have seen us lose by just the odd goal."

But, while Jim would prefer to stay in the First Division and hopes for better things next season, he admits that a block of North East clubs in the Second Division wouldn't be too disastrous.

"Having four local sides in the same division would create plenty of interest among the supporters and maybe one or two of the clubs could rise again.

"It would be disappointing for the area to be without a First Division team, but there's not enough class players between us to produce a top side."

SPECIAL REPORT SUNDERLAND FEEL THE PINCH...

about the place.

"The club face an almost impossible task to avoid relegation, but the drop might not turn out to be a bad thing in the long run.

"Look at Manchester United. The fans thought it was the end of the world when we got relegated in 1974, but we returned a much stronger force.

"The same could be true for Sunderland, although they've bounced back and forth from the First to the Second Division over the last five years.

"It's now got to the stage where Sunderland play better away from home. It's no reflection on the players. It's just that there's more pressure on them when they're at home.

"That's why it's so hard to do something when you're at Roker

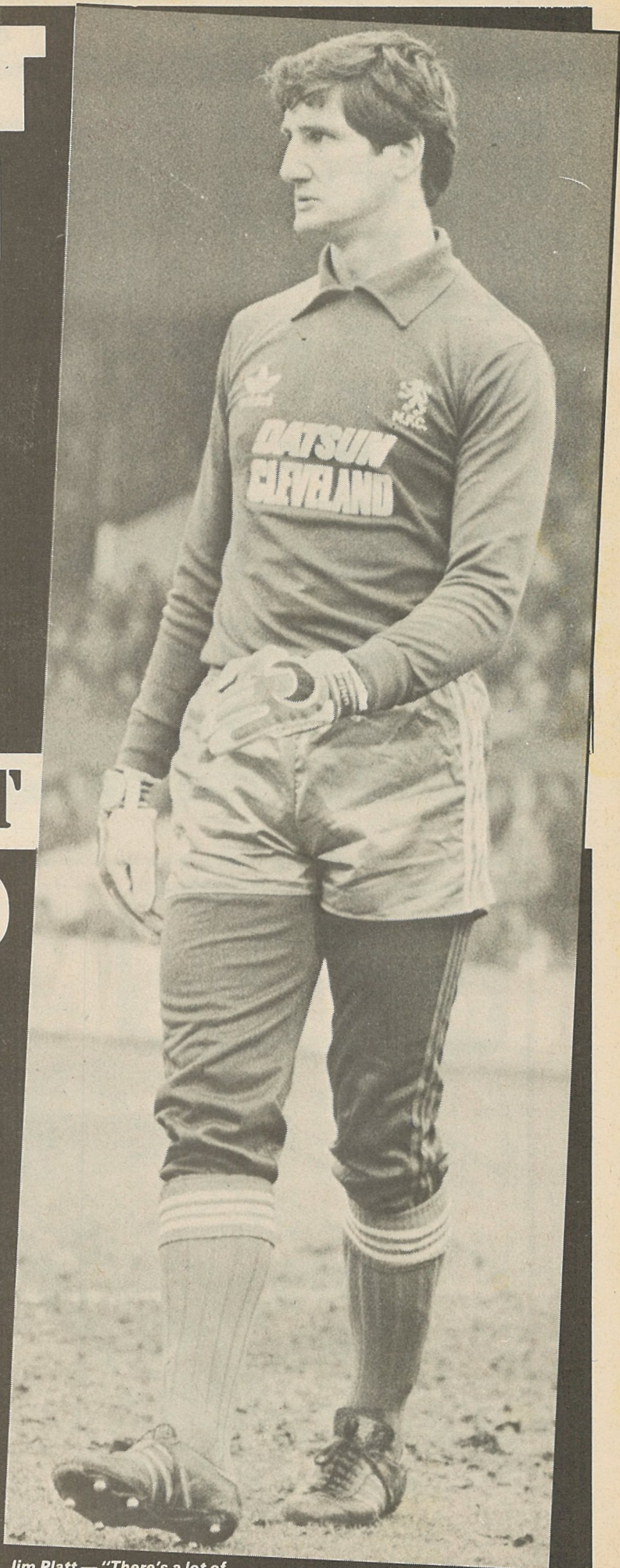
Park. The crowd gee the players up and, in their frustration, make it difficult for the team to play to their full potential."

Even though the North East is going through one of its most depressed spells ever, Jimmy says the supporters are as fanatical as ever.

"The fans are different up in the North East. They care about the team and I got a tremendous reception from them.

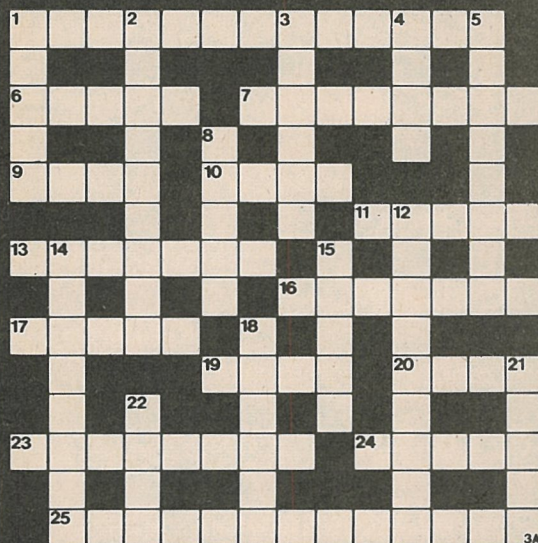
"Usually, if your team isn't doing well, you expect abuse from the fans. But that's not the case up there. They stop you in the street and talk to you about the situation and when they've had their say they walk away.

"Although times are bleak now, I'm sure the North East will be back with a vengeance before long," he added.



Jim Platt — "There's a lot of potential here but it may take relegation to sort things out."

SOCCERWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Famous club which scored over 100 First Division goals in four successive seasons twenty odd years ago but which this season may not reach 30! (13)
- 6 England will play three matches in the first one of the World Cup Finals (5)
- 7 — Rovers, Irish club for which Ray Hankin has been playing this year (8)
- 9 — Zoff, famous Italian goalkeeper (4)
- 10 Striker who left Stoke to play for Plymouth this season (4)
- 11 International defender who has logged around 600 League matches with Manchester City, Stoke and Bolton (5)
- 13 England man who scored over 200 goals for Southampton and Spurs before spells with Servette, Norwich and Brighton (7)
- 16 Towards the end of the season, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales will be involved in the — Championship (7)
- 17 Ron — managed Chelsea (5)
- 19 See 3 Down.
- 20 The first name of the England player whose surname has an 's' at the end of 19 Across (4)
- 23 An offensive sort of player (8)
- 24 Island country which was in Poland's World Cup qualifying group (5)
- 25 'Muck on ball, Ron' (anagram) — old England striker who player-managed Bury (6, 7)

DOWN

- 1 — Cup (5)
- 2 City where the NASL Whitecaps club can be found (9)
- 3 & 19 Across. Ground much seen on television this year when the club there came very close to closing down (6,4)
- 4 The Moor they play on at Burnley (4)
- 5 'Colin Ash' (anagram) — scoring winger who made a name for himself with Celtic in 1980-81, his first season (8)
- 8 Hit the net (5)
- 12 In possession (2,3,4)
- 14 The manager at 3 Down earlier this season — he subsequently took over at Toronto (8)
- 15 One of Norwich City's colours (5)
- 18 — Munich, famous German club (6)
- 21 Defender Frank — played over 500 League matches for Newcastle United and Nottingham Forest (5)
- 22 He played for Leicester last season even though his first name was Everton! (4)

ODD MAN OUT

CAN you spot the odd men out in each of the following five statements?

- 1 Alan Taylor (Cambridge), Jimmy Case (Brighton) and Trevor Brooking (West Ham) have each scored FA Cup Final winning goals
- 2 Liam Brady, Gerry Armstrong and David O'Leary are all current Eire internationals.
- 3 Kenny Dalglish, Ian Rush and Graeme Souness all played in Liverpool's League Cup winning replay against West Ham at Villa Park last season.
- 4 Craig Johnston, John Wark and Lee Chapman all topped their club's League scoring lists last season.
- 5 Blackburn Rovers, Luton and Queen's Park Rangers all finished in the top six of the Second Division last season.

PLAYER

CAN you unravel the jumbled up letters below to reveal the name of a famous First Division player.

HRTAAUPL

MATCH THEM UP

CAN you match the following Fourth Division strikers with their proper clubs?

A Craig Madden	1 Peterborough
B Jim Lumby	2 Hartlepool
C Mark Chamberlain	3 Bury
D Robbie Cooke	4 Mansfield
E Keith Houchen	5 Port Vale

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Entries must reach us by Friday, March 12 and the results will appear in our Saturday, March 27 issue.

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STOP THE ACTION

PICTURED is a tense moment from an FA Cup Fifth Round tie played earlier this season. How much can you remember of the game?

A. Which teams are playing? B. Where was the game played? C. Who are the four players pictured? D. Who won? E. Who scored the winner?

RIDDLE TIME

WHICH player began his career with Manchester City, has since played for six other clubs — currently a Third Division side — and has been capped five times by England (the last occasion in 1977)?

Can you guess our mystery man? His identity will be revealed on next week's competition page when there will also be a new riddle for you to solve.

SOLUTIONS

MATCH THEM UP: A-3; B-4; C-5; D-1; E-2.
STOP THE ACTION: A West Brom v Norwich; B The Hawthorns; C (from left to right) John Wile, Mark Grew, John Deehan, Martyn Bennett; D West Brom 1-0; E Cyrille Regis.
ODD MAN OUT: 1 Jimmy Case; 2 Gerry Armstrong; 3 Graeme Souness; 4 Craig Johnston; 5 GPR.
PLAYER JUMBLE: Paul Hart (Leeds).
SOCCEWORD: Across: 1 Wolverhampton; 6 round; 7 Shamrock; 9 Dino; 10 Cook; 11 Doyle; 13 Chivers; 16 British; 17 Stuart; 19 see 3 down; 20 Eric (Gates); 23 attacker; 24 Mafie; 25 Norman Bullock.
Down: 1 World; 2 Vancouver; 3 & 19 across Ashton Gate (Bristol City); 4 Turf; 5 Nicholas; 8 score; 12 on the ball; 14 Houghton; 15 green; 18 Bayern; 21 Clark; 22 Carr.

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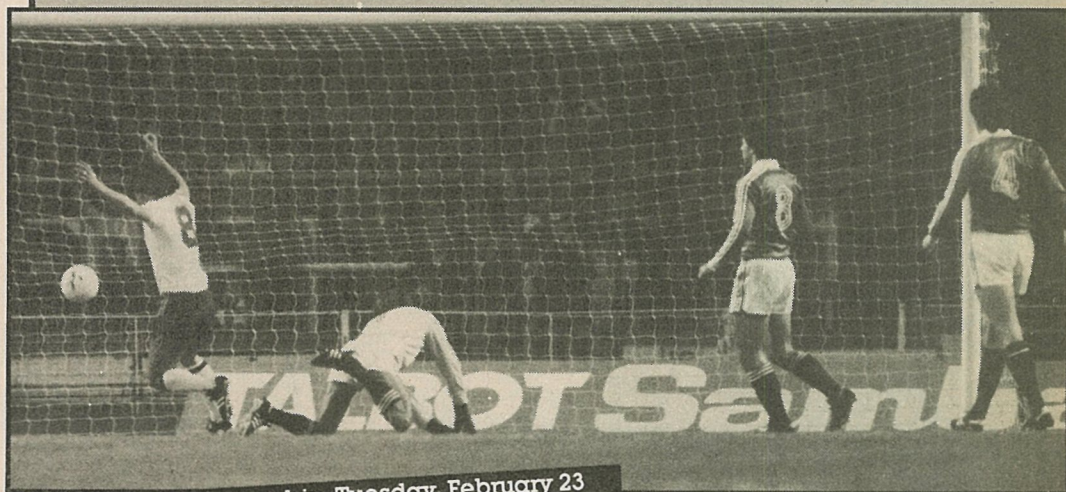
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ENGLAND



British Championship, Tuesday, February 23
ENGLAND (1) 4
NORTHERN IRELAND 0

(Robson 49 secs,
Keegan 49, Wilkins 85,
Hoddle 87)

HOW THEY RATED

England

Clemence 6

Anderson 6

Sansom 6

Wilkins 6

Watson 7

★ FOSTER 8

Keegan 7

Robson 6

Francis 7 (sub. Regis 6)

Hoddle 6

Morley 6 (sub. Woodcock)

Northern Ireland

Jennings 6

Nicholl, J 6

Nelson 6

Donaghy 6

Nicholl, C 6

O'Neill, J 6

Brotherston 6 (sub. Cochrane)

O'Neill, M 5

★ ARMSTRONG 7 (sub. McCreery)

McIlroy 6

Hamilton 6

Referee: G. Owen (Anglesey)

Match Rating: ★ ★ ★

Attendance: 54,900

Top: Number two for
England as skipper Kevin
Keegan beats Chris Nicholl
to increase the lead early in
the second half. Midfielder
Glenn Hoddle (10) looks on.

Above: Just the start for
England. After just 49
seconds Bryan Robson taps
the ball past stranded Pat
Jennings to put England
1-0 ahead.



Left: Manchester City striker Trevor Francis beats Irish trio Chris Nicholl, Billy Hamilton and Gerry Armstrong to send a header goalwards.



It's Keegan again. This time the Southampton striker watches his effort fly past the post. John O'Neill and Pat Jennings sit this one out.

BOUNCE BACK

ENGLAND bounced back into the goals business when they crashed four past Northern Ireland to begin their World Cup preparations in winning style.

Ron Greenwood's new-look team showed true British Bulldog character at Wembley and scored four in a game for the first time since October 1979 when they beat the luckless Irish 5-1 in Belfast.

Bryan Robson got the team off to a perfect start with a goal after just 49 seconds and after that Wembley belonged to England.

Our picture special tells its own story ...



Left: So close for Aston Villa winger Tony Morley. He can only watch in anguish as his effort creeps past the post.



Above: England substitute Cyrille Regis powers a header towards the Irish goal. His effort was brilliantly saved by keeper Pat Jennings.

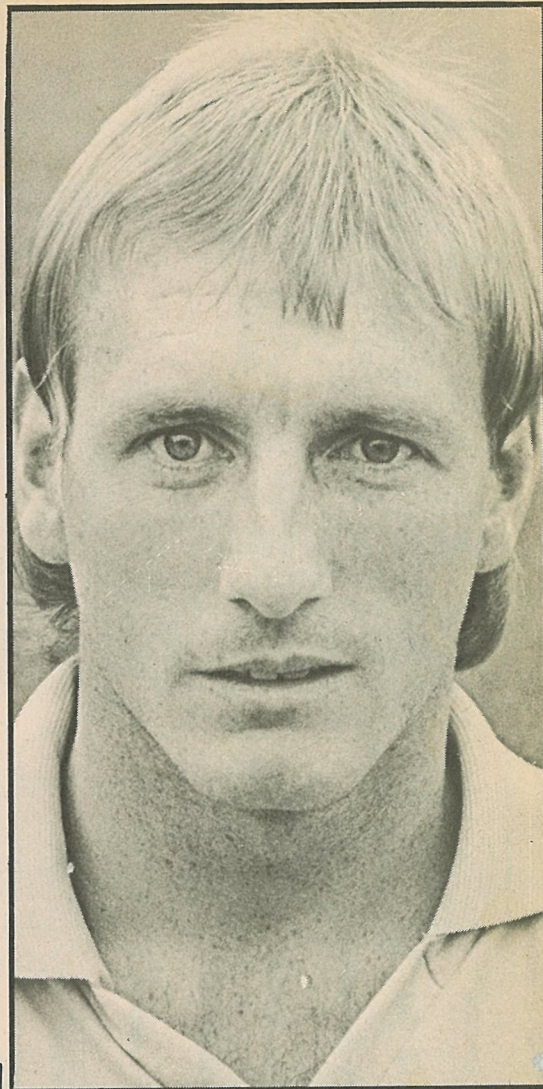


LEFT: Former Arsenal defender Steve Gattling has added flair to Brighton's back four, says Lauren Straus of London NW 10.

ASTON Villa skipper Dennis Mortimer (below) deserves a place in our Star Gallery, "for leading his team to the First Division Championship", according to Colin Lathan (14), of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

CRYSTAL Palace striker Tommy Langley is the favourite of D. Hinson of Morden, Surrey, who says: "He's still tops with me even though he left my team, QPR."

STAR GALLERY



Above: Steve Hunt — "I don't believe Coventry are ambitious enough on the field."

Coventry boss Dave Sexton — informed Steve Hunt that he must honour his contract with the club.

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HUNT FOR GLORY

Reporter Melvyn Beck talks to unsettled England hopeful Steve Hunt — now resigned to remaining at Highfield Road after failing in a bid to get away.

AS Coventry prepared for Saturday's vital FA Cup Quarter-Final tie at West Brom, midfield star Steve Hunt talked about his reasons for wanting to leave the Midlands club.

Denying reports that he just wants to strengthen his England claims at a more successful club, the 25-year-old former New York Cosmos player commented:

"I'm an ambitious player and I don't think Coventry are ambitious enough on the field.

"I know money can't buy success, but I think they could do more on the field to try and become a powerful First Division force.

"They've got the best youngsters in the country and are tremendous off the field. I just wish they would try and match those standards on it.

"I believe the margin between being a run-of-the-mill First Division side and a more successful one is fairly small in our case.

"I've nothing against the players already here, but two or three more experienced players are needed to bring the best out of the youngsters and that could make all the difference."

Since he returned from America three-and-a-half years ago for £40,000, Coventry have never finished above tenth place.

Last season they did reach the League Cup Semi-Finals for the first time, but Steve wants to see the club make more impact in the League.

He signed a new three-year contract at the start of the season, and has been informed by Coventry boss Dave Sexton that he must stay at Highfield Road and honour that agreement.

"I signed a new contract in the hope that Coventry might become more ambitious, but nothing has happened," says Steve who won two North American Championships with New York Cosmos.

"They have told me there is no way I shall be leaving Coventry at the moment and that I must honour my contract.

"I can see the club's point of view

having only signed the contract six months ago and I can guarantee them that I shall be training and playing just as hard as ever, as if nothing had happened.

"They have assured me that they are ambitious for success, but we shall just have to wait and see.

"Naturally I'm disappointed that they rejected my request, but I felt I had to make a stand to let them know my feelings about the situation.

"It was not a spur of the moment decision. I had been having discussions with the manager for several weeks before my transfer request became public."

Steve, who played seven games for Aston Villa before jetting across the Atlantic, could well figure in England manager Ron Greenwood's initial list of forty players for the World Cup Finals.

He has played in two England representative sides this season and must be on the verge of an international call-up.

"It has always been an ambition of mine to play for England and that's one of the reasons why I came back from the States.

"I always intended to come back and play again in the Football League. I could have stayed in America and lined my pockets with a few more dollars, but there's no question that you have a better chance of international recognition when you are with a successful club.

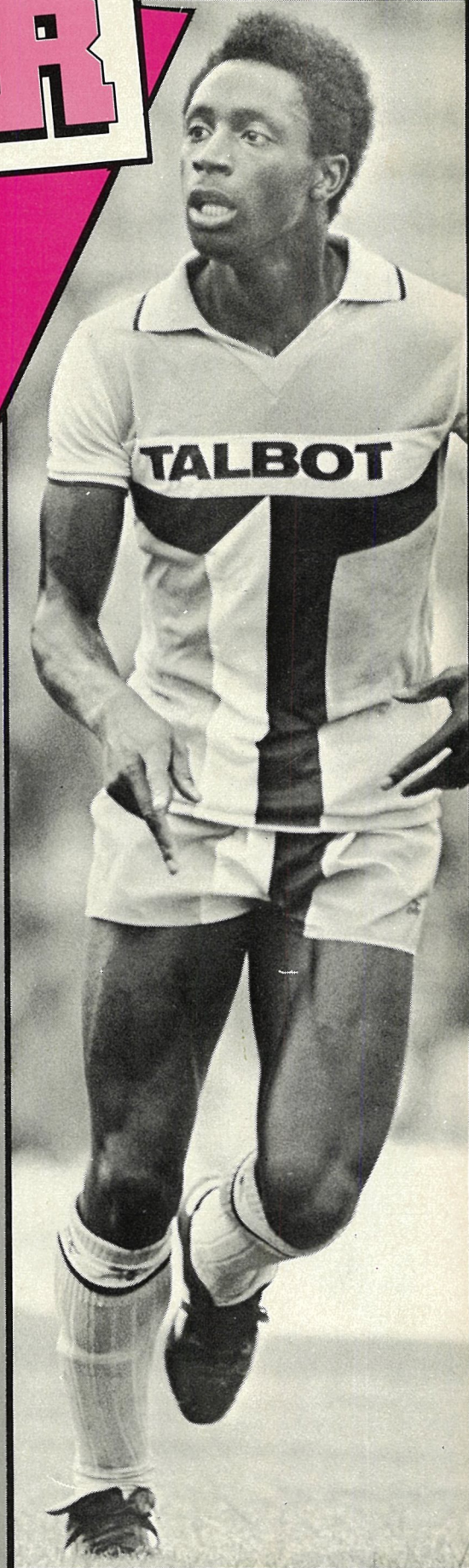
"Look at the number of players at Liverpool who get selected for international teams.

"But I also feel that if you are playing consistently well for a struggling club then you will also get recognised.


"I did fairly well in those two England matches and I just hope that I remain in Mr Greenwood's mind when he's selecting future squads.

"But there are a lot of good players around at the moment and everybody wants a place in the World Cup Finals.

"I feel that over the past two years I have been consistent and all I can do is to keep playing well and hoping."



Garry Thompson — just one of the many promising youngsters in the Coventry side. "But two or three more experienced players are needed," says Steve Hunt.



BACK ROW (left to right): Michael Nutton, Colin Lee, Colin Pates, Micky Droy, Paul Williams, Phil Driver, Paul Ward.

MIDDLE ROW: Norman Medhurst (head trainer), Ron Stuart (chief scout), Peter Rhoades-Brown, Tim Elmes, Gary Chivers, Bob Iles, Petar Borota, Mike Fillery, Gary Locke,



CHEL



**Chris Hutchings, Mick Leach (youth team coach),
Eddie Franklin (physiotherapist).
FRONT ROW: Ian McNeill (assistant manager),
Graham Wilkins, Kevin Hales, Clive Walker, Dennis Rofe,
Colin Viljoen, Ian Britton, John Bumstead, Alan Mayes,
John Neal (manager).
INSET: Steve Francis.**



MY money is riding on my old club West Brom to win the FA Cup.

That's not being sentimental, but I honestly believe that this is going to be their year.

They got so close to the League Cup Final a few weeks ago, and I don't somehow see them letting this second chance slip by.

Tottenham are more than capable of completing a unique FA Cup and League Cup double this season, but I just fancy Albion to take the Cup out of the capital for the first time since Ipswich four years ago.

Albion are a strong, well balanced team who are difficult to beat, so I'm sticking my neck out and going for them to win the Cup for the first time since 1968.

Here's my Quarter-Final assessment.

West Brom v Coventry

This clash between two of my former clubs presents a dilemma for me.

Although my head believes that West Brom will carry far too many guns for Coventry, my heart really wants Coventry to win.

I felt rather sorry for them last year when we defeated them in the League Cup Semi-Finals, because the enterprise they have shown over the years deserves some reward.

But I have always had a high regard for West Brom ever since I walked through the doors after my move from Coventry and I feel they will make home advantage tell.

Chelsea v Tottenham

After defeating Liverpool in the last round, Chelsea must be confident of taking on anyone at Stamford Bridge.

If the tie had been at White Hart Lane, then I would have made Tottenham clear favourites, but now it looks tight.

Tottenham seem to have the Midas touch in Cup football at the moment and I feel they will make the Semi-Finals again, probably after a replay.

But Chelsea have some First Division class players in their team and are quite capable of springing another surprise.

Leicester v Shrewsbury

Shrewsbury boss Graham Turner has worked a virtual miracle at Gay Meadow on a low budget, and they deserved a better draw after toppling Ipswich in the last round.

Shrewsbury are a very workmanlike side, but I think Leicester will have too much for them at Filbert Street.

Eddie Kelly has stabilised midfield in what is a fairly young Leicester side and Shrewsbury have shown over the years that they are not always happy away from home.

Q.P.R. v C. Palace

Discounting Rangers' obvious advantage from playing on their artificial surface, I still believe they have more to offer than their London rivals.

THE DAVID

ALBION FOR THE

There is a danger that too much will be said before the match in view of the movement of players between the clubs.

I was impressed with Rangers when we played them towards the end of last season and I thought they would run away with the Second Division this time.

That hasn't happened but I still think they will get promotion and possibly a place in the FA Cup Semi-Finals.

So my last four are: West Brom, Tottenham (after a replay), Leicester and Q.P.R.

So much for the Cup. What about West Ham?

At this time last year, we were planning our League Cup Final bid against Liverpool.

Now we are attempting to rediscover our form in a bid to make up some lost ground in the race for places in Europe.

Injuries to England men Alan Devonshire and Alvin Martin have not helped our cause, but their absence is only a contributory factor.

We are just not hitting the form we had at the beginning of the season, and we don't really know why.

Francois Van der Elst scored his first goal in English football at Stoke, but we ended up losing a game we should have won in the second half.

We looked all over winners when Francois equalised, but Stoke snatched the points.

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Cardiff	Spurs
Chelsea	Stoke C.
Coventry	Sunderland
Crystal Palace	Swansea
Everton	Watford
Ipswich	W.B.A.
Leeds	West Ham
Leicester	Wolves
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CROSS COLUMN

The West Ham striker names his last four for the FA Cup and discusses West Ham's recent form.

FA CUP

In the 2-2 home draw with Birmingham we never really deserved the point we grabbed with a last minute penalty from Ray Stewart.

Birmingham were a bit unlucky and on the evidence of their performance didn't look relegation candidates.

There was no dispute that a handling offence took place in the penalty area even though there seemed no way that I would reach the cross.

But I think that we would feel harshly treated if the decision had gone against us in the last minute.

However, I don't think there is any doubt that my old Norwich boss Ron Saunders will get them out of trouble.

They have plenty of First Division class players and he has the ability to bring the best out of them.

I don't know the full facts behind his shock resignation from Aston Villa, but he is a man of strong principles, and principles seem to be involved in some form or other.

David Cross

● David Cross was talking to Melvyn Beck.



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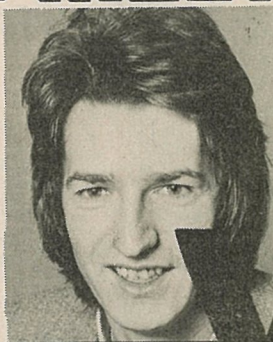
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Stratton on Saturday

£5 IS THE PRIZE!

IF my special guest opponent this week (pictured right) can prove he's a better tipster than me he wins £5!
In the panel below I've predicted the scorelines of ten selected matches and you can see the predictions of my opponent alongside them.

There's a space for your forecast and a column for the actual result. Award two points for every score you get right and one point if you get the result right, but the scoreline wrong.



Pictured above is my guest opponent this week — Tony Rogers (13) of Chingford, London. Tony is a Tottenham supporter and his favourite player is Match columnist Glenn Hoddle.

CHELSEA Football Club has waited 15 years for Saturday's FA Cup clash with rivals Spurs.

It was 1967 when the two London glamour clubs last met in the competition.

And that clash was in the Wembley Final when Tottenham defeated the 'Blues' 2-1.

So the hard-up Stamford Bridge side now get a chance to even the score.

The two clubs have met on five previous occasions in the Cup and Spurs lead 3-2 on victories.

On paper, the holders must start favourites to make it 4-2.

But 'on paper', Chelsea were only there to make up the numbers against European Champions Liverpool in the Fifth Round.

Instead, they pulled off a famous 2-0 victory amidst an atmosphere that smacked of the good old days when Chelsea were beating the best in Europe.

Victory over favourites Spurs would be fairy-tale stuff, but this season's competition has been a dream come true for so many clubs.

Chelsea may have had their day with that shock defeat of Liverpool... but I'll take Spurs to become another casualty of this crazy Cup season.

Of the other ties, Albion look good to maintain the upper hand over Midlands rivals Coventry at The Hawthorns.

A BRIDGE TOO FAR FOR SPURS!

The two clubs have met on three previous occasions in the Cup and it's 2-1 to Albion, including a 4-0 victory (after 2-2) in 1979.

Leicester and Shrewsbury have never met in the FA Cup before, but Jock Wallace's side must be favourites to go through.

Of the other Cup 'derby' — Q.P.R. v Crystal Palace — I must favour Rangers on their 'plastic' pitch.

I've predicted possible scorelines for ten of Saturday's matches and the challenge is beat me if you can.

As usual, one lucky 'Match' reader becomes my special guest opponent and you can see his predictions alongside mine.

● *Bad luck to Chris Walters — my guest opponent in the February 13 issue of 'Match', who just failed to beat me. We drew, 4 points each.*

Fixtures

Friday, March 5
DIVISION THREE
Southend v Chesterfield
DIVISION FOUR
York v Colchester

Saturday, March 6
FA CUP
SIXTH ROUND
Chelsea v Spurs
Leicester v Shrewsbury.....
Q.P.R. v C. Palace.....
W.B.A. v Coventry

DIVISION ONE
Birmingham v Man. Utd.....
Ipswich v Everton
Liverpool v Brighton.....
Man. City v Arsenal.....
M'boro v Wolves.....
Notts Co. v So'ton.....
Swansea v Stoke.....
West Ham v Aston Villa.....

DIVISION TWO
Blackburn v Derby
Bolton v Cardiff
Grimsby v Luton.....
Newcastle v Barnsley
Oldham v Rotherham.....
Sheff. Wed. v Charlton.....
Watford v Cambridge.....

DIVISION THREE
Bristol C. v Oxford.....
Chester v Wimbledon.....
Exeter v Burnley.....
Hudd'sf'd v Gilling'm.....
Lincoln v Brentford.....
Millwall v Doncaster.....
Plymouth v Carlisle.....
Portsmouth v Walsall.....
Reading v Preston.....
Swindon v Bristol R.....

DIVISION FOUR
B'rnmth v P'boro.....
Blackpool v Aldershot.....
Crewe v Stockport.....
Hartlepool v Sheff. Utd.....
Hereford v Scunthorpe.....
Mansfield v Darlington.....
Port Vale v Bury.....
Rochdale v Halifax.....
Tranmere v Torquay.....
Wigan v Hull.....

SCOTTISH
PREMIER DIVISION
Celtic v Dundee U.....
Dundee v Rangers.....
Morton v Airdrie.....
Partick v Hibernian.....
St Mirren v Aberdeen.....

FIRST DIVISION
Clydebank v Queen's Pk.....
Dumbarton v Ayr.....
Falkirk v Hearts.....
Kilmarnock v Dunfermline.....
Queen of Sth. v E. Stirling.....
Raith v Hamilton.....
St Johnstone v Motherwell.....

SECOND DIVISION
Alloa v Berwick.....
Cowdenbeath v E. Fife.....
Forfar v Arbroath.....
Meadowbank v Albion R.....
Montrose v Clyde.....
Stirling A. v Brechin.....
Stranraer v Stenhousemuir.....

Sunday, March 7
THIRD DIVISION
Newport v Fulham

FOURTH DIVISION
Bradford v Northampton.....
* Does not include any rearranged fixtures.

MATCH Saturday, Mar. 6

Chelsea v Spurs
Leicester v Shrewsbury
Q.P.R. v C. Palace
W.B.A. v Coventry
West Ham v Aston Villa
Oldham v Rotherham
Swindon v Bristol R.
Reading v Preston
Blackpool v Aldershot
Morton v Airdrie

MY FORECAST

2-1
2-0
3-1
2-1
3-0
2-0
1-1
3-1
3-0
2-0

GUESTS FORECAST

1-2
1-1
2-2
2-0
2-1
0-1
0-1
2-0
1-1
1-1

YOUR FORECAST

RESULT

WHO WON THIS WEEK?

POINTS SCORED

PAUL

YOURSELF

AGGREGATE SCORES
CARRIED FORWARD
TO NEXT WEEK

PAUL

YOURSELF

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Wednesday, Feb. 17

SCOTTISH

Premier Division

(Omitted from last week)

PARTICK (1) 2 (Higgins 70 secs, Johnston 73)

RANGERS (0) 0

Att: 6,513

Partick: Rough 7, McKinnon 6, Whittaker 6, Anderson 7, ★**DUNLOP 8**, Watson 7, Park 6, Jardine 7, Johnston 6, Doyle 7, Higgins 7.

Rangers: Stewart 7, Jardine 6, Miller 7, McAdam 6, Jackson 7, Stevens 6, Bett 6, Russell 7, ★**DALZIEL 8**, Redford 7, MacDonald 6.

Referee: L. B. Thow (Ayr)

Match Rating: ★★★

Sunday, Feb. 21

Division Two

ORIENT (0) 0

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0

Att: 5,132

Orient: Day 8, ★**FOSTER 9**, Roffey 8, Fisher 7, Gray 7, Hallybone 7 (sub. McNeil 6), Godfrey 8, Margerrison 7, Moores 5, Silkman 6, Hughton 6.

Crystal Palace: Barron 8, Hinshelwood 8, Boulter 7, Giles 6 (sub. Price), ★**WICKS 9**, Cannon 7, Brooks 6, Smillie 7, Langley 6, Mabbutt 6, Hilaire 7.

Referee: A. R. Glasson (Wiltshire)

Match Rating: ★★★

Monday, Feb. 22

Division Four

YORK (1) 2 (Ford 20, Hood, pen 57)

PORT VALE (0) 0

Att: 1,938

York: Blackburn 7, Sweeney 7, Dawson 7, Hood 7, ★**CZUCZMAN 9**, Aitken 6, Stanley 6, Kay 6, Walwyn 6, Ford 7, Laverick 6.

Port Vale: Harrison 7, Tarr 6, Bromage 7, Hunter 7, ★**SPROSON 8**, Bowles 7, Sealy 7, Moss 6, Greenhoff 6, Shankland 6, Chamberlain, M 7.

Referee: K. A. Redfern (Whitley Bay)

Match Rating: ★★★

SCOTTISH Scottish Cup, Fourth Round, second replay

HIBERNIAN (0) 0

DUNDEE UNITED (0) 3 (Kirkwood 52, Dodds 78, Bannan, pen 82)

Att: 12,674

Tuesday, Feb. 23

Division Two

ROTHERHAM (0) 2 (Fern 62, Moore 81)

WREXHAM (0) 0

Att: 9,158

Rotherham: Mountford 7, Forrest 6, Brechin 7, Hughes 6, ★**STANCLIFFE 8**, Green 7,

Towner 7, Gow 7, Moore 7, Fern 7, McEwan 6,

Wrexham: Niedzwiecki 7, Jones 6, Bater 7 (sub. Cegielski), Davis 6, Dowman 6, Leman 7, Fox 7, Hill 6, ★**McNEIL 8**, Vinter 6, Carrodus 6.

Referee: H. Taylor (Oadby)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

BRISTOL CITY (2) 3 (Harford 16, 30, Chandler 83)

EXETER (1) 2 (Roberts 29, Rogers, P 81)

Att: 6,612

Bristol City: Moller 6, Stevens 7, Williams 6, Newman 6 (sub. Economou 6), Nicholls 6, McCaffrey 5, ★**MUSKER 8**, Carter 6, Chandler 7, Harford 7, Hay 6.

Exeter: Bond 6, Mitchell 6 (sub. Pratt), Sparrow 6, Rogers, M 7, Foster 7, Roberts 6, Fisher 6, Rogers, P 6, Kellow 5, ★**DELVE 8**, Pullar 7.

Referee: D. V. Reeves (Uxbridge)

Match Rating: ★★★

CHESTER (0) 1 (Oakes)

CARLISLE (0) 1 (Robson)

(Match abandoned after 56 mins, fog)

FULHAM (0) 0

OXFORD (0) 0

Att: 5,959

Fulham: Peyton 6, Lock 6, Strong 5, O'Driscoll 5, Brown 6, ★**GALE 7**, Davies 6, Wilson 6, Coney 5, O'Sullivan 5, Reeves 6 (sub. Parker 6).

Oxford: Burton 6, Doyle 6, Fogg 6, Jeffrey 6, Briggs 6, Wright 6, Brock 6, Foley 6, ★**CASSELLS 8**, Thomas 7, Smithers 6.

Referee: J. E. Martin (Alton)

Match Rating: ★★

SWINDON (1) 2 (Carter, pen 45, Williams 67)

PORTSMOUTH (0) 0

Att: 4,860

Swindon: Allan 7, Henry 6, Baddeley 7, Williams 6, Lewis 7, ★**STROUD 8**, Hughes 6, Carter 6, Rideout 7, Greenwood 5, Pritchard 7.

Portsmouth: Knight 6, McLaughlin 7, Bryant 6, Doyle 7, ★**ELLIS 8**, Garner 7, Barnard 6, Rafferty 7, Gregory 7, Bason 6 (sub. Hemmerman 6), Crown 6.

Referee: C. B. White (Harrow)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

ALDERSHOT (1) 2 (French 10, Garwood 86)

NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Phillips, pen 80)

Att: 1,171

Aldershot: Johnson 6, Edwards 6, Scott (sub. Sanford 7), Briley 7, Bennett 6, Jopling 6, Lucas 5, McDonald 7, ★**GARWOOD 9**, French 8, Robinson 6.

Northampton: Poole 5, Carlton 5, Saunders 5, Gage 5, Kruse 6, Heeley 7, ★**COFFILL 8**, Brady 7, Buchanan 6, Alexander 5, Phillips 7.

Referee: L. Burden (Corfe Mullen)

Match Rating: ★★★

BOURNEMOUTH (1) 1 (Funnell 16)

MANSFIELD (0) 0

Att: 5,725

Bournemouth: Leigh 6, Heffernan 6, ★**SULLEY 8**, Spackman 6, Compton 6, Impey 7, Edmunds 6, Crawford 6, Funnell 7, Dawtry 6, Williams 6.

Mansfield: Arnold 7, McJannet 6, Foster 6, Bell 7, Burrows 6, Wood 6, Thomson 6 (sub.

Caldwell 6), Cannell 6, Lumby 6, Nicholson 6,

★**PARKINSON 8**.

Referee: C. Downey (Hounslow)

Match Rating: ★★

TRANMERE (1) 1 (Kerr 18)

PETERBOROUGH (1) 2 (Cooke 43, 73)

Att: 1,185

Tranmere: Endersby 6, Mungall 6, Burgess 6, Parry 6, ★**BRAMHALL 7**, Ferguson 5 (sub. Brown), Hamilton 6, Powell 6, Kerr 6, Craven 6, Griffiths 6.

Peterborough: Freeman 6, Butler 6, Collins 6, Gynn 7, Smith 6, Rodaway 6, Clarke 6,

Kellock 6, ★**COOKE 8**, Hodgson 7, Chard 6.

Referee: D. B. Allison (Lancaster)

Match Rating: ★★★

SCOTTISH First Division

DUMBARTON (0) 0

DUNFERMLINE (0) 1 (McNaughton 65)

Att: 950

ST JOHNSTONE (0) 2 (Docherty 82, Brogan 85)

HEARTS (1) 1 (McCoy 18)

Att: 2,300

Second Division

BERWICK (0) 1 (McCulloch 76)

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0

Att: 625

MEADOWBANK (1) 1 (Godfrey 44)

FORFAR (1) 1 (Gallacher 35)

Att: 427

STRANRAER (0) 0

ALLOA (2) 4 (Grant 17, Purdie 42, pen 89, McComb 84)

Att: 572

Wednesday, Feb. 24

Division Two

BARNLEY (0) 0

NORWICH (1) 1 (Bertschin 42)

Att: 15,360

Barnley: Horn 6, Laws 6, Chambers 7, Cooper 6, Banks 6, McCarthy 7, Evans 7,

Parker 6 (sub. Glavin 6), Aylott 7, McHale 6, ★**BIRCH 8**.

Norwich: Woods 7, Haylock 7, Downs 6, McGuire 6, Walford 6, Watson 7, Jack 7.

PLAYER RATINGS

- 10 Out of this world
- 9 Outstanding
- 8 Excellent
- 7 Good
- 6 Adequate
- 5 Off form
- 4 Poor

MATCH RATINGS

- ★★★★★ A classic
- ★★★★★ Good value
- ★★★★ Satisfactory
- ★★★ Dull
- ★ A waste of money

★**O'NEILL 8**, Shepherd 7, Bertschin 7,

Mendham 6.

Referee: K. Barratt (Coventry)

Match Rating: ★★

NEWCASTLE (1) 1 (Varadi 43)

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (0) 0

Att: 18,967

Newcastle: Carr 7, ★**BROWNIE 8**,

Saunders 6, Treweek 7, Carney 7, Haddock 7,

Mills 7, Cartwright 6, Varadi 7, Wharton 7,

Waddle 7.

Sheff Wed: Bolder 7, Shirliff, Peter 6,

Williamson 7, Smith 7, ★**PICKERING 9**,

Taylor 7, Mellor 6 (sub. Pearson 6), Shirliff,

Paul 6, Bannister 7, Megson 8, Curran 6.

Referee: M. P. Scott (Nottingham)

Match Rating: ★★

Division Three

MILLWALL (0) 2 (Horrix 73, Chatterton, pen 89)

WIMBLEDON (0) 1 (Fishenden 64)

Att: 4,072

Millwall: Gleasure 6, Roberts 6, Warman 6, Chatterton 7, Allardyce 6, Tagg 7, Shinton 6,

Massey 5, ★**HORBIX 8**, Neal 6, West 6.

Wimbledon: Beasant 6, Gage 6, Armstrong 6,

★**SMITH 8**, Morris 7, Brown 6, Ketteridge 6,

Lazarus 6, Fishenden 7, Hodges 5, Joseph 6.

Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

BRADFORD (0) 1 (Staniforth 80)

BURY (1) 1 (Madden 32)

Att: 5,468

Bradford: Ramsbottom 6, ★**PODD 9**,

Watson 7, Ingham 7, Cooke 8, McFarland 8,

Gallagher 6 (sub. Lester 7), Staniforth 7,

Campbell 7, McNiven 7, Ellis 7.

Bury: ★**BROWN 8**, Bradley 7 (sub.

Constantine 6), Kennedy 7, Gore 7, Hilton, P 7,

Howard 7, Hilton, M 6, Butler 6, Madden 7,

Jakub 7, Cruickshank 7.

Referee: B. Martin (Nottingham)

Match Rating: ★★★

TORQUAY (0) 1 (Winn 56)

CREWE (1) 1 (Chesters 28)

Att: 1,601

Torquay: ★**O'KEEFE 9**, Jones 5, Pethard 6,

Brown 6, Rodgers 5 (sub. Cox 7), Wilson 6,

Sermanni 5, Lawrence 5, Winn 7, Tainton 6,

Young 5.

Crewe: Mulhearn 6, Lewis 6, Griffiths 6,

Salathiel 6, Scott 6, Palios 6, Haslegrave 6,

Callaghan 5 (sub. Heath), Chesters 7, Howat 7,

★**WILLIAMS 8**.

Referee: T. Bune (Cranleigh)

Match Rating: ★★★

Friendly International

SPAIN (1) 3 (Victor 25, Quini, pen 83,

Gallego 86)

SCOTLAND (0) 0

Att: 30,000

Friday, Feb. 26

Division Four

COLCHESTER (2) 3 (Adcock 13, 88,

Bremner 29)

ROCHDALE (1) 2 (O'Loughlin 28, Hilditch 75)

Att: 2,760

Colchester: Walker 7, Cook 6, Longhorn 6,

Lyons 6, Coleman 7, Wright 7, ★**ADCOCK 8**,

Bremner 6, Osborne 6, McDonough 5,

Allinson 5 (sub. Cotton).

Rochdale: Poole 6, Weir 5, Snookes 6, Dolan 6,

Cooper 6, Taylor 6, ★**GOODWIN 7**,

O'Loughlin 6, Hilditch 5, Wallings 6, Esser 5.

Referee: M. Dimplebee (Stevenage)

Match Rating: ★★★

STOCKPORT (0) 0

WIGAN (0) 1 (Quinn, pen 55)

Att: 5,084

Stockport: Lloyd 7, Rutter 6, Sherlock 7,

★**EMMERSON 8**, Thorpe 6, Smith 6,

Williams 7, Sunley 6, Fowler 7, Park 7, Coyle 7.

Wigan: Tunks 7, Glenn 8, Cribley 8, Wignall 7,

Lloyd 5 (sub. Weston 6), Methven 6, Quinn 7,

★**O'KEEFE 9**, Bradd 6, Houghton 8, Evans 6.

Referee: M. J. Heath (Stoke)

Match Rating: ★★★

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Saturday, Feb. 27

Division One

ARSENAL (0) 0

SWANSEA (1) 2 (Kennedy 16, James, R, pen 65)

Att: 29,724

Arsenal: Wood 6, Hollins 6, ***SANSOM 7**, Talbot 5, O'Leary 6, Whyte 6, Vaessen 4 (sub. Meade 6), Sunderland 5, Davis 6, Nicholas 4, Rix 5.

Swansea: Davies 8, Stanley 7, Marustik 7, ***IRWIN 9**, Kennedy 7, Rajkovic 8, Curtis 8, James, R 7, James, L 8 (sub. Walsh 7), Stevenson 7, Robinson 7.

Referee: H. Taylor (Leicester)

Match Rating: ★★★

ASTON VILLA (2) 2 (Cowans, pen 5, Shaw 19)

COVENTRY (1) 1 (Thompson 2)

Att: 24,474

Aston Villa: Rimmer 6, Jones 6, Williams 6, Evans 7 (sub. Blair), McNaught 6, ***MORTIMER 8**, Bremner 7, Shaw 7, Withe 6, Cowans 7, Morley 6.

Coventry: Blyth 7, Roberts 7, Barnes 6, Francis 6, ***GILLESPIE 8**, Hagan 6, Bodak 6, Thomas 6, Hateley 7, Thompson 7, Hunt 6.

Referee: D. Owen (Wirral)

Match Rating: ★★★

Sending Off: Thompson (Coventry)

BRIGHTON (1) 2 (Ritchie 14, Robinson 61)

WEST BROM (0) 2 (Cross 79, Bennett 89)

Att: 14,553

Brighton: Moseley 6, Stevens 6, Nelson 6, Grealish 6, Foster 6, Gattling 7, Case 7, ***RITCHIE 9**, Robinson 7 (sub. Ryan), McNab 6, Thomas 6.

West Brom: Grew 6, Webb 6, Statham 7, Lewis 6 (sub. Cross 7), Wile 6, Bennett 6, Childs 6, King 6, Regis 6, Owen 7, ***MACKENZIE 8**.

Referee: L. Shapter (Torquay)

Match Rating: ★★★

EVERTON (0) 0
WEST HAM (0) 0

Att: 28,618

Everton: Southall 6, Borrows 7, Bailey 6, Higgins 6, Wright 6, Richardson 7, ***IRVINE 8**, Heath 6, Sharp 7, Biley 5, Ross 6.
West Ham: ***PARKES 8**, Stewart 7, Brush 6, Bonds 7, Orr 7, Allen 6, Neighbour 6, Goddard 6, Van der Elst 5, Brooking 5, Pike 6.

Referee: J. Key (Rotherham)

Match Rating: ★★★

LEEDS (0) 0

LIVERPOOL (1) 2 (Souness 40, Rush 76)

Att: 33,689

Leeds: Lukic 6, ***CHERRY 7**, Gray, F 6, Stevenson 5, Hart 6, Burns 5, Hird 6, Graham 5, Butterworth 6, Gray, E 5 (sub. Connor 6), Barnes 5.

Liverpool: Grobbelaar 7, Neal 7, Lawrenson 7, Kennedy 8, Whelan 8, Hansen 7, Dalglish 7, Lee 7, Rush 8 (sub. Johnson), McDermott 8, ***SOUNESS 9**.

Referee: G. E. Flint (Kirby)

Match Rating: ★★★

MANCHESTER UNITED (1) 1 (Moran 40)

MANCHESTER CITY (1) 1 (Reeves 18)

Att: 57,872

Man Utd: Bailey 6, Gidman 7, Albiston 6, Wilkins 7, ***MORAN 8**, Buchan 6, Robson 7, Birtles 5, Stapleton 6, Duxbury 5, Coppell 7.
Man City: Corrigan 7, Ranson 6, McDonald 7, Reid 6, Hareide 6, ***CATON 9**, Ryan 6, Reeves 7, Jackson 6, Hartford 6, Power 6.
Referee: K. S. Hackett (Sheffield)

Match Rating: ★★★

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (0) 1 (Gray 90)

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1 (Hodgson 6)

Att: 16,464

Nott'm Forest: Shilton 7, Anderson 7, Gray 7, McGovern 6, Young 6, Gunn 6, Mills 6, Plummer 7, ***WARD 8**, Bowyer 7, Walsh 6 (sub. Wallace).

Middlesbrough: Platt 8, Nattrass 7, Bailey 7, Ross 7, Baxter 7, McAndrew 6, Angus 6, Otto 6, ***HODGSON 9**, Woof 7, Thomson 7.

Referee: C. Thomas (Porthcawl)

Match Rating: ★★★

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 3 (Keegan, pen 17, Baker 56, 61)

BIRMINGHAM (1) 1 (Worthington, pen 40)

Att: 20,620

Southampton: Katalinic 6, Golac 7, Holmes 6, Baker 7, ***NICHOLL 8**, Waldron 7, Keegan 7, Channon 7, Puckett 6, Armstrong 6, Ball 7.
Birmingham: Jones 5, Langan 6, Van den Hauwe 5, Curbishley 6, ***SCOTT 7**, Broadhurst 6, Handysides 5 (sub. Phillips), Whatmore 5, Worthington 6, Dillon 6, Van Mierlo 5.

Referee: M. James (Horsham)

Match Rating: ★★★

STOKE (0) 0

TOTTENHAM (0) 2 (Crooks 74, 82)

Att: 20,592

Stoke: Fox 7, Kirk 7, Hampton 6, Dodd 6 (sub. Lumsden 6), Watson 6, McAughtrie 7, McIlroy 6, O'Callaghan 6, Chapman 6, Bracewell 7, ***MAGUIRE 8**.

Spurs: Clemence 7, Hughton 6, Miller 7, Price 7, Hazard 7, ***PERRYMAN 8**, Ardiles 7 (sub. Roberts 7), Archibald 7, Galvin 6, Hoddle 7, Crooks 7.

Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)

Match Rating: ★★★

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Brown 66)

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 1 (McCulloch 85)

Att: 12,910

Sunderland: Siddall 7, Hinnigan 6, Munro 7, ***HINDMARCH 8**, Clarke 6, McCoist 7, Buckley 6, McGuinley 5 (sub. Cooke 7), Brown 6, Pickering 6, Cummins 6.

Notts County: Avramovic 7, Benjamin 6, O'Brien 7, Goodwin 7, Kilcline 6, ***RICHARDS 8**, Chiedozie 6, Harkouk 6, McCulloch 7, Hooks 6 (sub. Christie), Mair 7.

Referee: D. Richardson (Gt. Harwood)

Match Rating: ★★★

WOLVES (2) 2 (Clarke 4, 20)

IPSWICH (1) 1 (Gates 22)

Att: 12,439

Wolves: Bradshaw 6, Palmer 6, Parkin 6, Matthews 5, Gallagher 6, Coy 6, ***HIBBITT 7**, Carr 6, Gray 5, Richards 5, Clarke 6.

Ipswich: Cooper 6, Burley 6, McCall 6, Mills 5, Osman 6, Steggle 5, Wark 5, Muhren 5, D'Avray 5, ***BRAZIL 7**, Gates 6.
Referee: N. Midgeley (Salford)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Two

BARNLEY (0) 0

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Garner 89)

Att: 13,150

Barnley: Horn 6, Law 6, Chambers 7, Glavin 7, Cooper 6 (sub. Banks), McCarthy 6, Evans 7, Riley 6, Aylott 7, McHale 7, ***BIRCH 8**.
Blackburn: Gennoe 7, Branagan 7, Rathbone 7, Arnott 7, Keeley 7, Fazackerley 7, Miller 8, ***STONEHOUSE 9**, Bell 8, Garner 8, Brotherston 8.

Referee: P. Richardson (Lincoln)

Match Rating: ★★★

CAMBRIDGE (0) 2 (Mayo 72, Smith 87)

GRIMSBY (0) 2 (Brolly 57, Drinkell 59)

Att: 3,542

Cambridge: Key 7, Donaldson 6, Murray 6, Smith 7, Fallon 7, ***CARTWRIGHT 8**, Streete 6 (sub. Turner 6), Spriggs 7, Gibbins 6, Reilly 6, Mayo 6.
Grimsby: Batch 7, Moore, D 7, Crombie 6, Waters 6, Wigginton 6, Moore, K 6, Stone 6, Ford 6, Drinkell 7, Mitchell 6, ***BROLLY 8**.

Referee: K. G. Salmon (Barnet)

Match Rating: ★★★

CARDIFF (0) 0

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (2) 2 (Bannister, pen 25, Taylor 44)

Att: 5,674

Cardiff: Healey 7, Jones 5, Gilbert 6, Dwyer 5 (sub. Grapes 5), Pontin 5, Bennett, G 6, Bennett, D 7, Maddy 5, Stevens 6, Kitchen 6, ***HUGHES 8**.

Sheff Wed: Bolder 8, Sterland 7, Williamson 6, Shirliff, Peter 6, Pickering 7, Smith 5, ***MEGSON 9**, Taylor 8, Bannister 8, McCulloch 7, Curran 6.

Referee: R. Milford (Bristol)

Match Rating: ★★★

CHARLTON (0) 1 (Robinson 89)

SHREWSBURY (0) 0

Att: 4,575

Charlton: Johns 6, Naylor 6, Elliott 6, ***MEHMET 8**, McAllister 7, Phillips 6, Ambrose 7, Walsh 7, Lansdowne 6, Berry 6, Robinson 7.

Shrewsbury: ***WARDLE 9**, Leonard 7, Johnston 7, Cross 6, Griffin 8, Keay 7, Tong 6,

McNally 6 (sub. Dungworth 6), Atkins 6,

Gibson 6, Bates 6.

Referee: I. J. Borrett (Norfolk)

Match Rating: ★★★

DERBY (1) 2 (Emsen 39, Wilson 63)

NEWCASTLE (0) 2 (Varadi 56, Waddle 69)

Att: 12,257

Derby: Banovic 7, Lovatt 5, Buckley 7, Skivington 6, ***SHERIDAN 8**, McAlle 6, Attley 7, Powell, B 6, Clayton 6, Wilson 6, Emsen 6.

Newcastle: Carr 6, Brownlie 6, Saunders 7, Treweek 7, Carney 6, Haddock 6, Mills 7, Cartwright 6, Varadi 7, Wharton 6.

***WADDLE 8**.

Referee: R. Lewis (Gt. Bookham)

Match Rating: ★★★★★

LEICESTER (0) 1 (Lynex, pen 89)

BOLTON (0) 0

Att: 10,687

Leicester: Wallington 6, ***WILLIAMS 8**, Friar 6, Peake 7, May 7, O'Neill 7, Lynex 6, Linder 6, Young 6 (sub. Melrose 6), Wilson 7, Kelly 7.

Bolton: McDonagh 7, Whitworth 7, Bennett 6, Henry 7, Jones 7, Gowing 6, Chandler 6, Foster 6, Carter 6, ***CANTELLO 8**, Thompson 6.

Referee: C. A. Maskell (Cambridge)

Match Rating: ★★★

LUTON (1) 2 (Moss, pen 8, 55)

OLDHAM (0) 0

Att: 11,506

Luton: Findlay 8, Stephens 7, Aizlewood 8, Horton 8, Goodyear 8, Donaghy 7, Hill 7, ***STEIN 9**, White 8, Fucillo 8, Moss 7.

Oldham: McDonnell 7, Edwards 6, Ryan 6, Keegan 6, Clements 7, ***FUTCHER 8**, Wyld 6, Heaton 6 (sub. Anderson), Palmer 6, McDonough 6, Atkinson 6.

Referee: L. M. Robinson (Sutton Coldfield)

Match Rating: ★★★★★

Sending Off: McDonough (Oldham)

NORWICH (0) 0

QPR (1) 1 (Roeder 39)

Att: 15,928

Norwich: Woods 7, Haylock 7, Downs 7, McGuire 8, Walford 6, Watson 7, Jack 6, ***O'NEILL 9**, Deehan 7, Bertschin 6, Mendham 6 (sub. Mountford 7).

QPR: ***HUCKER 9**, Howe 7, Gillard 6, Neill 6, Hazell 7, Roeder 7, Currie 8, Flanagan 7, Allen 6, Stainrod 6, Gregory 7.

Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)

Match Rating: ★★★★★

ORIENT (1) 1 (Silkman, pen 8)

WATFORD (2) 3 (Blissett 3, pen 45, Jenkins 49)

Att: 6,595

Orient: Day 7, Foster 7, Roffey 7, Fisher 5, Gray 6, Osgood 6, ***GODFREY 8**, McNeal 7, Moores 6, Silkman 7, Hughton 7.

Watford: Sherwood 7, Rice 7, Rostron 6, Taylor 7, Terry 6, Bolton 7, Callaghan 6 (sub. Armstrong), ***BLISSETT 9**, Jenkins 7, Lohman 6, Barnes 8.

Referee: T. Bune (Surrey)

Match Rating: ★★★★★

ROTHERHAM (1) 2 (Moore 9, Towner, pen 55)

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0

Att: 10,007

Rotherham: Mountford 7, Forrest 7, Breckin 7, Hughes 8, Stancliffe 8, Green 7, Towner 7, Gow 8, Moore 8, ***FERN 9**, McEwan 7.

Crystal Palace: Barron 6, Hinshelwood 7 (sub. Giles 6), Boulter 7, Cannon 7, Wicks 6, Gilbert 7, Brooks 6, Smillie 7, Langley 7, ***MABBUTT 8**, Hilaire 7.

Referee: K. Redfern (Whitley Bay)

Match Rating: ★★★★★

WREXHAM (0) 1 (Carrodus 66)

CHELSEA (0) 0

Att: 3,935

Wrexham: Niedzwiecki 7, Jones 7, Bater 7, ***DAVIES 9**, Downman 8, Ronson 8, Leman 8, McNeil 6, Fox 8, Vinter 6 (sub. Hill 6), Carrodus 8.

Chelsea: Francis 7, Locke 6, Hutchings 6, Nutton 6, Chivers 6, Pates 6, Rhoades-Brown 6, Britton 6 (sub. Mayes 5), Lee 5, Walker 6, ***FILLERY 8**.

Referee: G. J. Napthine (Loughborough)

Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

BURNLEY (1) 3 (Taylor 10, Phelan 57, Scott 67)

PORTSMOUTH (0) 0

Att: 7,024

Burnley: Stevenson 6, Laws 7, Wharton 6, Cassidy 8, ***PHELAN 9**, Holt 7, Dobson 7,

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MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Scott 8, Hamilton 7, Taylor 6 (sub. Potts), Young 7.
Portsmouth: ★KNIGHT 8, McLaughlin 6, Sullivan 6, Barnard 6, Ellis 5, Garner 5, Doyle 7, Rafferty 6, Gregory 6, Tait 6, Rogers 4 (sub. Crown 5).
Referee: J. Hough (Macclesfield)
Match Rating: ★★

BRENTFORD (0) 2 (Whitehead 55, Bowen 86)

EXETER (0) 0
 Att: 4,931
Brentford: McKellar 6, Rowe 7, Tucker 6, Salman 7, Whitehead 7, Booker 6, Harris 6, Sweetzer 6 (sub. Johnson 6), Bowen 6.
★BOWLES 8, Roberts 6.
Exeter: Bond 6, ★**ROGERS, M 8**, Sparrow 6, Marker 7, Foster 7, Roberts 6, Pullar 6, Rogers, P 7, Kellow 6, Delve 6, Howarth 6 (sub. Pratt 6).
Referee: B. T. Stevens (Gloucester)
Match Rating: ★★

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 2 (Barrett 66, Williams, D 75)

SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Moody 53)
 Att: 4,910
Bristol Rovers: Kite 7, Bailey 7, Mabbutt 6, Gillies 7, ★**PARKIN 8**, Hughes 7, Barrett 7, Williams, D 7, Kelly 6, Randall 7, Williams, B 6.
Southend: Keeley 7, Stead 7, Hadley 6, Pennyfather 6, Moody 7, ★**CUSACK 8**, Gray 6, Nelson 7, Spence 6, Mercer 7, Otulakowski 7.
Referee: D. Letts (Basingstoke)
Match Rating: ★★

CARLISLE (1) 1 (Beardsley 2)
SWINDON (1) 1 (Rideout 45)
 Att: 4,633
Carlisle: Swinburne 6, Parker 5, Rushbury 6, ★**HOUGHTON 8**, Ashurst 7, Crabbe 5, Campbell 5 (sub. Coughlin 7), Robson 7, Beardsley 7, Lee 7, Haigh 6.
Swindon: Allan 7, Henry 7, Baddeley 6, Williams 6, Lewis 7, Stroud 6, Hughes 7, Carter 7, ★**RIDEOUT 8**, Greenwood 6, Pritchard 5.
Referee: K. Walmsley (Blackpool)
Match Rating: ★★

CHESTERFIELD (1) 2 (Henderson 19, Crawford 50)
READING (0) 1 (Webb 52)
 Att: 4,462
Chesterfield: Turner 7, Stirk 6, O'Neill 6, Wilson 7, Green 6, Ridley 7, Salmons 6, Henderson 6 (sub. Windridge), Bonnyman 5, Kowalski 6, ★**CRAWFORD 8**.
Reading: Fearon 6, Williams 6, White 6, ★**WEBB 8**, Hicks 7, Hetzke 6, Beavon 6, Earles 6, Dixon 7, Sanchez 7, Lewis 6.
Referee: J. Worrall (Warrington)
Match Rating: ★★

DONCASTER (0) 0
NEWPORT (1) 2 (Bishop 21, Aldridge 88)
 Att: 4,190
Doncaster: Boyd 6, Russell 5, Cooper 6, ★**SNODIN 19**, Little 5, Dowd 7, Pugh 6, Dawson 5, Douglas 5, Harle 6 (sub. Bremner 7), Lister 5.
Newport: Kendall 7, Lees 6, Relish 6, Davies

6, ★**OAKES 8**, Johnson 6, Vaughan 7, Elsey 6, Aldridge 6, Bishop 7, Moore 7 (sub. Tynan 7).
Referee: G. Tyson (Sunderland)
Match Rating: ★★

FULHAM (0) 2 (Coney 70, Lock, pen 72)
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 2 (Austin 44, Stanton 83)
 Att: 5,963
Fulham: Peyton 6, Lock 7, Strong 6, O'Driscoll 7, Brown 6, Gale 7, ★**DAVIES 8**, Wilson 6, Coney 7, O'Sullivan 7, Reeves 7.
Huddersfield: ★**TAYLOR 8**, Brown 6, Purdie 6, Stanton 7, Burke 6, Hanvey 7, Lillis 6, Wilson 6, Fletcher 5, Austin 6, Cowling 5.
Referee: J. E. Bray (Hinckley)
Match Rating: ★★

GILLINGHAM (1) 3 (Bruce 2, Cascarino 47, Kemp 62)
PLYMOUTH (2) 2 (Sims 24, 40)
 Att: 4,835
Gillingham: ★**HILLIARD 8**, Sharpe 7, Adams 6, Bruce 7, Shaw 6, Duncan 6, Powell 7, Tydemann 7, Miller 6 (sub. Cascarino 7), Kemp 7, Price 6.
Plymouth: Crudgington 7, Nisbet 7, Uzzell 6, Harrison 7, James 7, Cooper 7, Hodges 6, Cook 6, ★**SIMS 8**, Randell 7, Rogers 6.
Referee: D. Hedges (Headington)
Match Rating: ★★

OXFORD (1) 3 (Jeffrey 15, Cassells, pen 68, Smithers 81)
CHESTER (0) 1 (Cooke 46)
 Att: 5,049
Oxford: Burton 6, Doyle 6, Fogg 5, Jeffrey 7, Briggs 6, ★**WRIGHT 8**, Brock 7, Foley 6, Cassells 6, Thomas 6, Smithers 6.
Chester: Harrington 6, Raynor 6, Burns 5, ★**STORTON 7**, Zelem 5, Oakes 6, Cooke 6, Jones 5, Simpson 5, Blackwell 5, Henderson 5.
Referee: D. P. Reeves (Uxbridge)
Match Rating: ★★

PRESTON (1) 1 (Kelly 23)
BRISTOL CITY (1) 3 (McCaffery 44, Bray 49, Harford 89)
 Att: 6,411
Preston: Hodge 7, Taylor 6 (sub. Anderson 6), ★**MATEER 8**, Bell 6, Booth 6, O'Riordan 6, Kelly 7, McGee 6, Elliott 6, Naughton 6, Bruce 6.
Bristol City: ★**MOLLER 8**, Stevens 6, Williams 6, Bray 7, McCaffery 7, Nicholls 6, Musker 6 (sub. Newman 6), Carter 6, Chandler 6, Harford 7, Hay 6.
Referee: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)
Match Rating: ★★

WALSALL (0) 1 (Penn 88)
MILLWALL (0) 1 (Tagg 76)
 Att: 3,731
Walsall: Green 7, Macken 7, Mower 7, Beech 6, Serella 7, ★**HART 8**, Rees 6, Caswell 6 (sub. Lowery 7), Penn 6, Buckley 6, Waddington 6.
Millwall: Gleasure 7, Roberts 7, Warman 7, Chatterton 7, Allardyce 7, ★**TAGG 8**, Shinton 6 (sub. Hayes 6), Massey 6, Horrix 6, Neal 6, West 7.
Referee: D. Scott (Burnley)
Match Rating: ★★

WIMBLEDON (1) 1 (Gage 11)
LINCOLN (0) 1 (Cockerill 65)
 Att: 2,094
Wimbledon: Beasant 7, ★**GAGE 8**, Armstrong 7, Smith 7, Brown 7, Downes 6, Ketteridge 6, Lazarus 7, Fishenden 7 (sub. Leslie 7), Hodges 6, Joseph 7.
Lincoln: Felgate 7, Carr 6, Turner, P 7, Cockerill 7, Peake 6, Thompson 7, Shipley 7, ★**TURNER, W 8**, Hobson 7, Cunningham 7, Hibberd 6 (sub. Gilbert 6).
Referee: A. Robinson (Waterlooville)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

BURY (3) 4 (Madden 21, 36, 75, Gore 42)
TRANMERE (0) 0
 Att: 3,295
Bury: Brown 7, Constantine 7, Hilton, P 7, Howard 6 (sub. Mullen 6), Kennedy 7, Gore 6, Cruickshank 6, Jakub 5, Butler 5, Hilton, M 6, ★**MADDEN 8**.
Tranmere: Endersby 5, Parry 6, Bramhall 5 (sub. Griffiths 6), Mountfield 6, Burgess 6, Mungall 5, Williams 6, ★**HAMILTON 7**, Powell 5, Kerr 6, Craven 6.
Referee: D. Shaw (Sandbach)
Match Rating: ★★

HALIFAX (1) 1 (Davison 20)
HEREFORD (1) 2 (Showers 28, Harvey 55)
 Att: 2,091
Halifax: Smelt 6, Kendall 6 (sub. Carr 6), Chamberlain 6, Evans 6, ★**AYRE 7**, Hendrie 6, Ward 6, Davison 6, Allatt 6, Spooner 6, Firth 6.
Hereford: Brand 7, Price 7, Pejic 6, Hicks 7, Dobson 7, Musial 7, Harvey 7, Laidlaw 6, Phillips 6, Showers 7, ★**WHITE 8**.
Referee: N. Glover (Chorley)
Match Rating: ★★

HULL (1) 2 (McJannet, og 12, Mutrie, pen 84)
MANSFIELD (0) 0
 Att: 4,958
Hull: Norman 7, Swann 7, Thompson 5, Roberts, D 6, Horswill 7, Roberts, G 7 (sub. Ferguson 6), Marwood 6, ★**MCLAREN 8**, Flounders 5, Mutrie 7, Deacy 7.
Mansfield: Arnold 7, McJannet 5, Foster 5, Bell 6, Burrows 5, ★**WOOD 8**, Thomson 6, Cannell 6, Lumby 5 (sub. Caldwell), Nicholson 7, Parkinson 5.
Referee: P. N. Willis (Stockton)
Match Rating: ★★
Sending Off: Foster (Mansfield)

NORTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Gage 25)
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0
 Att: 2,125
Northampton: Poole 6, Brady 7, Saunders 7, Kruse 7, Gage 7, Coffill 6, Massey 8, Saxby 8, Sandy 6, Phillips 7, ★**BUCHANAN 9**.
Bournemouth: ★**LEIGH 9**, Heffernan 6, Sulley 6, Spackman 7, Compton 6, Impey 7, Edmunds 6 (sub. Goddard 7), Crawford 6, Funnell 6, Smith 6, Williams 6.
Referee: H. W. King (Merthyr Tydfil)
Match Rating: ★★

PETERBOROUGH (3) 4 (Cooke 6, pen 24, 46, Gynn 41)
HARTLEPOOL (4) 4 (Houchen 7, pen 13, 25, Staff 15)
 Att: 4,610
Peterborough: Freeman 6, Butler 6, Collins 5, Gynn 8, Smith, T 6, Rodaway 6, Clarke 7,

Kellock 7, ★**COOKE 9**, Smith, R 6, Chard 6.
Hartlepool: Burleigh 6, Brown 6, Stimpson 7, Hogan 6, Bird 6, Fagan 7, Linacre, J 6, Staff 7, Newton 8, ★**HOUCHEEN 9**, Linacre, P 6.
Referee: C. Downey (Hounslow)
Match Rating: ★★

SHEFFIELD UNITED (0) 2 (Kenworthy, pen 48, Edwards 52)
PORT VALE (1) 1 (Sealy, pen 41)
 Att: 13,813
Sheff Utd: Waugh 7, Casey 7, Garner 7, Matthews 6, ★**HOUSTON 8**, Kenworthy 7, Morris 7, Trussan 7, Edwards 7, Neville 6, King 7.
Port Vale: Harrison 7, Tarrt 7, ★**BROMAGE 8**, Hunter 6, Sproson 7, Bowles 6, Keenan 6 (sub. Brissett), Moss 6, Greenhoff 6, Sealy 7, Chamberlain, M 7.
Referee: R. Chadwick (Darwen)
Match Rating: ★★

TORQUAY (1) 1 (Jones 25)
BLACKPOOL (1) 1 (Harrison 17)
 Att: 2,177
Torquay: O'Keefe 6, Jones 7, Pethard 6, Tainton 6, Lawrence 6, Wilson 6, Sermann 6, Winn 7, Cooper 6, ★**COX 8**, Young 5.
Blackpool: Hesford 6, Gardner 6, Brockbank 6, Blair 7, ★**HARRISON 8**, McEwan 6, Deary 6, Noble 7, Hockaday 6, Pashley 6, Stewart 6 (sub. Greenall).
Referee: J. Deakin (Bedford)
Match Rating: ★★

SCOTTISH

Premier Division

ABERDEEN (0) 0
DUNDEE (0) 0
 Att: 7,500
Aberdeen: Leighton 6, Kennedy 7, McMaster 6, Bell 7 (sub. Cooper 6), McLeish 7.
★MILLER 8, Strachan 7, Simpson 6, McGehee 7, Jarvie 6 (sub. Cowan 6), Hewitt 6.
Dundee: Geddes 7, McKimmie 7, McLelland 6, Fraser 7, Smith 6, Glennie 7.
★FERGUSON 8, Kidd 6, Fleming 7 (sub. Stephen), McGeachie 6 (sub. Cameron 6), Mackie 7.
Referee: A. Waddell (Penicuik)
Match Rating: ★★

AIRDRIE (0) 3 (Watson, og 46, Clark 69, McGuire 88)
PARTICK (0) 1 (Higgins 89)
 Att: 3,600
Airdrie: Martin 7, McCluskey 6, Rodger 6, Anderson, G 6, Anderson, N 7, Campbell 6, Gordon 7, Flood 6, ★**CLARK 8**, McDonagh 6, McKeown 7 (sub. Walker).
Partick: Rough 7, McKinnon 6, Whittaker 7, Jardine 6, Dunlop 6, Aberdeen 6, Doyle 7, Watson 6, ★**PARK 8**, Johnston 6, Higgins 6.
Referee: L. B. Thow (Ayr)
Match Rating: ★★

DUNDEE UNITED (0) 1 (Bannon, pen 54)
ST MIRREN (1) 1 (McDougall 29)
 Att: 7,653
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 7, Gough 6, Stark 7, Narey 7, Hegarty 6, Holt 7, ★**BANNON 8**, Kirkwood 6, Milne 6, Sturrock 7, Dadds 6.
St Mirren: Thomson 7, Walker 6, McCormack 7, Fitzpatrick 6, Fulton 7, ★**COPLAND 8**, Richardson 7, Stark 6, McDougall 7, McAvennie 6, Bone 6.
Referee: J. R. S. Renton (Cowdenbeath)
Match Rating: ★★

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and
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KEVIN KEEGAN'S
VERDICT

ALAN BIRCH —
'I wasn't given a
chance at Wolves'

North East
special report:
Focus on
Newcastle

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Ivan Golac +
Alan Brazil +
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+ George
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weekly soccer magazine
that's UP-TO-DATE!

NEXT
WEEK

28 MATCH WEEKLY

DIVISION THREE												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chesterfield	8	3	1	0	8	2	2	1	1	5	3	17
Doncaster	7	3	0	1	5	1	2	1	0	4	2	16
Reading	8	2	0	2	6	3	1	0	5	1	1	16
Walsall	8	2	1	1	4	3	2	2	0	4	1	14
Swindon	8	2	0	2	9	5	2	2	0	4	1	14
Bristol Rovers	8	1	2	1	6	7	3	0	1	7	3	14
Carlisle	8	3	1	0	8	5	1	1	2	3	4	14
Millwall	8	2	0	2	7	7	2	1	1	2	4	13
Fulham	8	3	0	1	7	4	1	1	1	2	4	13
Portsmouth	8	2	2	0	3	3	2	0	6	6	1	12
Oxford	8	2	2	0	2	3	3	2	0	6	6	12
Newport	8	2	1	1	5	4	1	1	2	8	4	11
Gillingham	8	1	1	2	6	6	2	1	1	6	3	10
Lincoln	8	0	3	1	3	4	2	1	1	3	3	10
Huddersfield	8	1	2	1	6	8	1	2	1	5	5	10
Chester	7	0	3	0	0	8	2	1	1	3	6	8
Southend	8	2	1	1	5	4	1	1	2	4	8	10
Exeter	8	2	0	2	2	9	1	0	1	5	4	9
Brentford	8	0	2	2	1	3	2	1	2	2	4	9
Bristol City	8	2	1	1	7	6	0	2	2	4	7	9
Preston	8	1	2	1	3	3	0	1	3	2	8	6
Burnley	8	1	2	1	3	3	0	1	3	2	8	6
Plymouth	8	0	1	3	1	6	0	1	3	2	7	2
Wimbledon	8	0	0	4	2	9	0	2	2	4	8	2

Focus on Divisions Three and Four with Melvyn Beck

The two tables dramatically illustrate Burnley's incredible rise up the Third Division. The table on the left shows them third from bottom on October 3 . . . 13 points behind the leaders. The table on the right shows them 17 games later on February 13 . . . in fifth place and just seven points off the top!

DIVISION THREE												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	24	11	1	1	24	9	4	2	5	11	13	48
Fulham	24	7	3	1	21	9	8	3	4	19	16	45
Chesterfield	26	6	3	2	19	9	5	2	6	14	15	44
Southend	26	7	4	3	20	14	4	4	4	12	11	41
Burnley	25	6	4	2	18	12	3	4	4	18	18	41
Bristol Rovers	28	8	3	4	23	19	3	4	8	12	20	40
Reading	27	7	3	4	24	21	4	3	6	14	22	39
Walsall	25	6	1	4	23	12	3	4	5	10	12	38
Oxford	23	5	3	3	12	8	5	3	4	18	17	36
Lincoln	25	6	4	3	22	11	3	4	5	14	16	35
Gillingham	25	6	3	4	26	19	4	2	6	10	18	35
Plymouth	28	7	4	4	24	15	2	4	7	9	18	35
Huddersfield	25	6	3	4	24	15	3	3	6	11	15	33
Millwall	24	5	2	5	18	14	4	4	1	5	17	33
Brentford	27	2	4	8	7	10	7	2	8	19	19	33
Doncaster	24	7	1	4	20	13	2	4	8	12	21	32
Exeter	24	7	1	4	28	24	2	4	8	17	25	32
Portsmouth	26	5	6	2	14	10	1	8	6	14	21	30
Newport	28	4	3	3	8	8	2	4	7	16	21	30
Preston	25	4	3	6	19	21	3	4	5	10	14	29
Swindon	28	4	3	3	8	8	2	4	7	16	21	30
Bristol City	25	4	3	6	19	21	3	4	5	10	14	29
Bristol Rovers	25	4	3	6	19	21	3	4	5	10	14	29
Chester	26	1	8	3	10	14	4	1	9	13	24	24
Wimbledon	24	4	2	5	14	17	2	3	8	16	32	23

BOOM

GO BURNLEY

BURNLEY have produced one of the most remarkable transformations in the Football League so far this season.

People talk about Liverpool's sudden emergence from apparent slumbers in the First Division, but look at the change that has undergone Burnley in the past few months.

At the beginning of October, the trap door to the Fourth Division was looming large.

After eight matches they had chalked up just one victory and were third from bottom facing the prospect of a grim fight for survival.

It was a disastrous situation for a club that was playing host to First Division giants at their homely Turf Moor headquarters less than six years ago.

But a 2-0 win at Portsmouth on October 3 proved to be the turning point and the start of a tremendous success story.

The confidence from that first away victory of the season triggered off a chain reaction of success that has shot the tiny Lancashire club up the table with the force of a rocket.

Such has been the revival that by the middle of February, Brian Miller's men were in the thick of the promotion battle after a 17-match unbeaten spell, including six successive victories up to February 13.

Their Northern Ireland World Cup striker Billy Hamilton never had any real doubts that Burnley would soon remove any relegation fears.

"I always felt the team was in a false position near the bottom of the table," says the former Linfield and Queen's Park Rangers forward who was Match Weekly's Third Division "Matchman of the Month" for January.

"We got off to a bad start and, with a lot of young players in the team, confidence was badly shaken.

"Youngsters tend to drop their heads when

things are going wrong.

"But that 2-0 win at Portsmouth gave the team the confidence they needed to go from strength to strength.

"It gave the youngsters belief in themselves and confidence played a major part in that long unbeaten run.

"Confidence is sky-high at the moment and it's a joy to play in the team.

"Midfield player Trevor Steven and full-back Andy Wharton have been revelations and young central defender Vince Overson is as solid as a rock and he's only about 19.

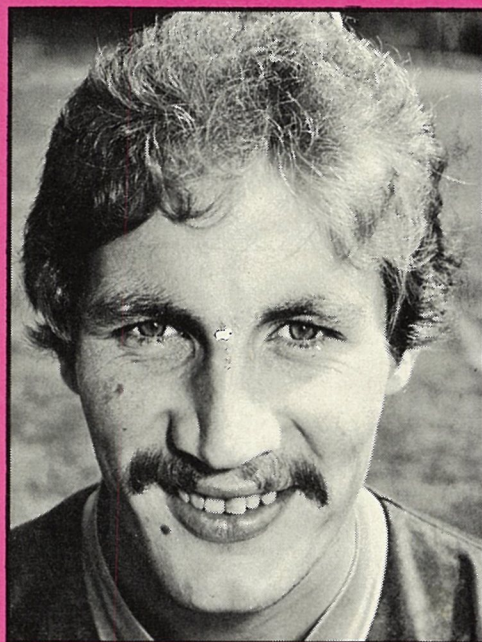
"But the experience of men like Tommy Cassidy and Martin Dobson is also proving vital.

"They can calm things down in midfield when situations need cooling and can help the young lads through."

Now, 24-year-old Billy wonders whether Burnley can maintain their form to earn a ticket back to the Second Division after a two-year absence.

"Teams like Oxford, Chesterfield and Fulham are going to be big dangers to our playing hopes, but I feel we are playing better now than last season when we finished eighth.

"Most teams go through a bad patch at some stage of the season and we hope we got ours out of the way at the beginning."



Billy Hamilton — "Most teams go through a bad patch and we hope we've got ours out of the way."

KRUSE MOVES

BRENTFORD defender Pat Kruse has joined Northampton on loan.

The 28-year-old former Leicester and Torquay player will be hoping to stiffen a defence that has conceded more than fifty goals this season.

Dons in final

WIMBLEDON, bottom of the Third Division, will face Grimsby in the first final of the Group Cup which was launched by the Football League as a pre-season competition. The 'Dons' slammed in-form Burnley 5-0 in the Semi-Final.

match
weekly



STEVE WHITE LUTON TOWN



GOLDEN GOAL

Peter Rhoades-Brown
(Chelsea) v Liverpool,
FA Cup, Fifth Round,
Stamford Bridge,
Sat., Feb. 13, 1982.

BREATH TAKING!

PETER Rhoades-Brown couldn't have saved his first goal of the season for a much grander Chelsea occasion than the dramatic humbling of mighty Liverpool.

The raiding forward set the Second Division side on the way to the Cup shock of the season after only eight minutes to ignite the emotion-charged atmosphere of a packed Stamford Bridge.

The young forward was so overcome with elation at scoring that he could hardly draw breath for the next few minutes as the cheers rang round the famous stadium.

It was two rather fortunate touches of the ball on the halfway line which opened the Liverpool defensive gates to set Peter scampering towards goal.

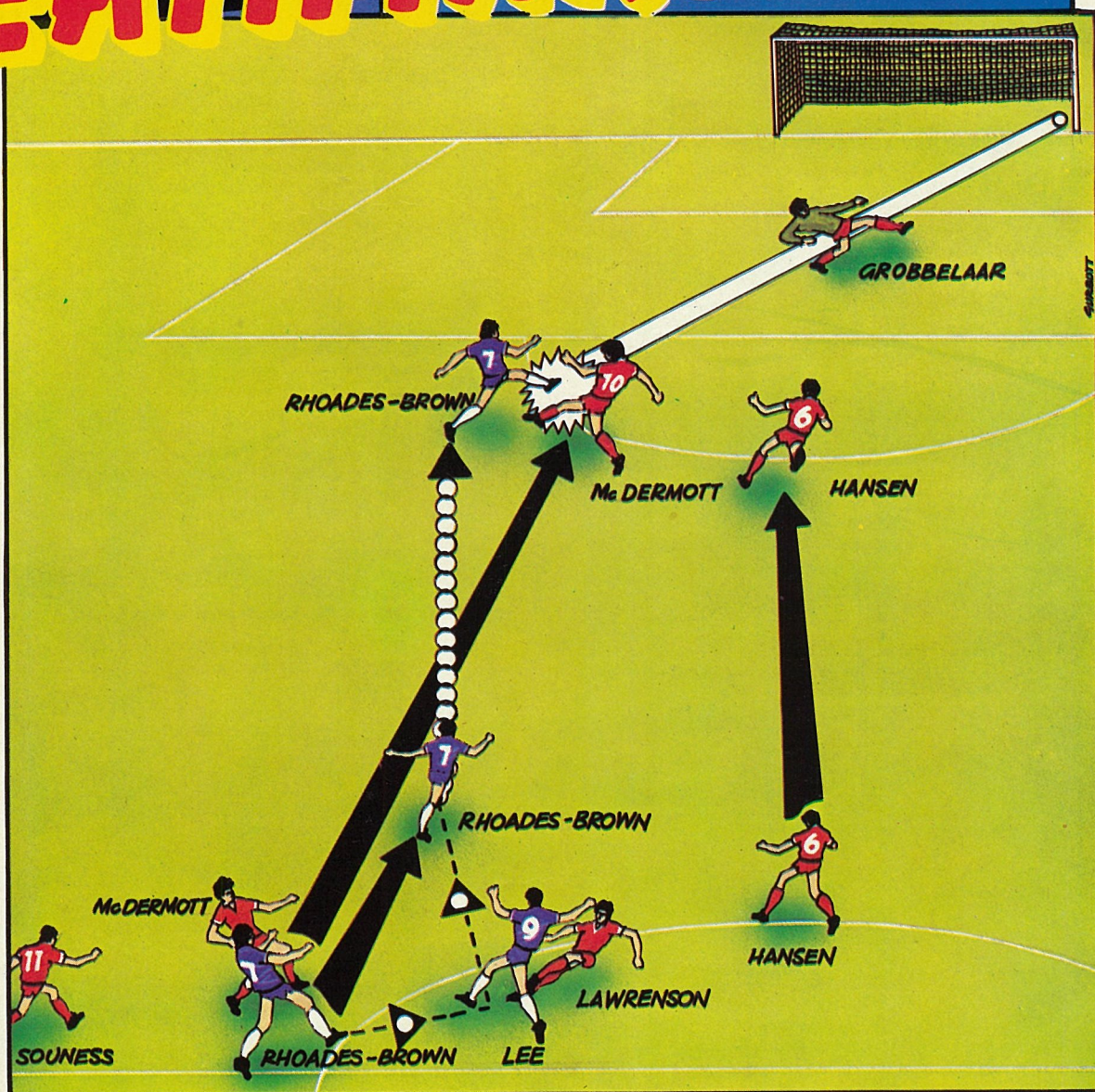
"I managed to stick in a toe while Terry McDermott was in possession on the halfway line," recalls Peter, who had scored only one previous senior goal in his career with the Londoners.

"Colin Lee managed to get a touch on the ball as Mark Lawrenson challenged, and that left me in the clear.

"Bruce Grobbelaar came off his line but came too far to the right and left a gap in the corner which I found.

"For about 15 minutes afterwards I could hardly breathe."

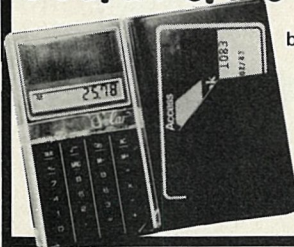
Colin Lee sealed the European Champions' fate six minutes from the end to put Chelsea within two matches of Wembley.



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Outraged at something concerning soccer? Then write and tell us about it.

But remember, you risk the wrath of 'Match' referee Michael Weavers who may book you or, worse still, send you off!

Just to soften the blow we'll send £2 to those whose names are taken and £5 to the person who gets his marching orders.

Write to: 'Outraged', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough.

CLARKE CLANGER

I'M outraged that Leeds manager Allan Clarke constantly plays winger Peter Barnes in the reserves.

He should play Peter in the first team — or sell him. It's Peter's time and Leeds' supporters' money that Mr Clarke is wasting.

It's like buying a 'Match Weekly'... and using it to wrap fish and chips! Paul Smith, Elland, West Yorkshire.

● **BARBARIC!** How can you possibly think of wrapping your chips in a 'Match'. You're sent off! As for Barnes, he should realise that he will only win a World Cup Finals ticket if he's playing first team soccer... for Leeds or any other First Division club.

Keep quiet, Kenny

I WAS outraged to read in 'Match Weekly' that Kenny Hibbitt, Wolves' midfield general, thought his side's goal-scoring record was 'pathetic'.

If that's the case, he should give his Wolves team-mates shooting lessons. Or perhaps he should take over as manager.

Criticism won't do his team any good. If Hibbitt continues to say these things about Wolves, they will be relegated. James Finlay, Wimbledon, London.

● **WOLVES** will be relegated whether Hibbitt criticises them or not. You're booked.

SPLIT DECISION

I'M outraged that professional football doesn't have two referees — one for each half of the pitch.

That way, referees would be able to study the play more closely. There would be less chance of a referee being unsighted and less controversy over decisions.

Jim Smith, Great Crosby, Liverpool.

● **TWO** referees add up to total confusion. Three officials is plenty. You're booked.

BAN THESE EXPORTS...

I AM outraged about players like Liam Brady moving to continental clubs.

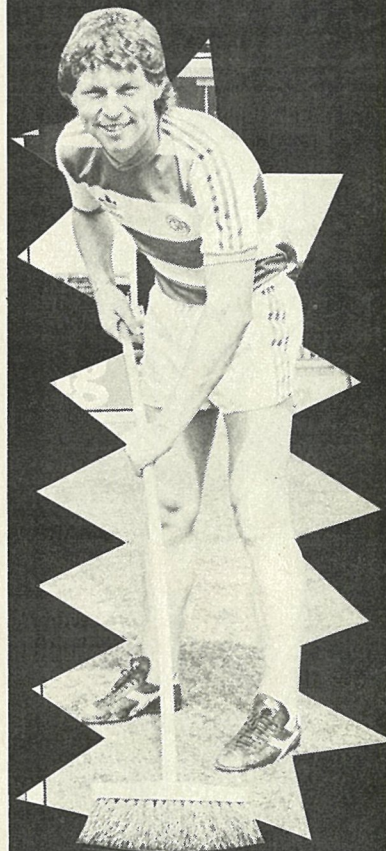
British football is short of good, skilful players as it is without Brady going abroad.

We should hold onto these players... to bring some life back to British soccer. Paul Morris (12), Greenford, Middlesex.

● **IF** we lose Brady and Jordan, but get Ardiles, Villa, Van der Elst, Golac and Katalinic, then British customers get the best of the deal. You're booked.

Brush-off!

SHAME on you Match! Fancy calling Queen's Park Rangers player Clive Allen a striker last month, when the picture clearly showed he was a sweeper! Adrian Brodtkin, London.



Getting a kick from TV soccer

IT'S all very well for some 'Match' readers to write that there's too much soccer on TV, but what about me!

I'm a Nottingham Forest supporter and I live in London. The only chance I get to see my team is when they play in the capital.

Thanks to television, I can keep up to date with Forest because they appear quite often in televised games. Gustavo Schaller (14), Kew, Surrey.

Good luck, Sammy

WHEN Manchester United sold Sammy McIlroy to Stoke City, it marked the end of an era. Gone was the last of the "Busby Babes".

Sammy has had a wonderful career with United and Northern Ireland. His underrated skills will be much appreciated at Stoke.

I believe I join with all Manchester United supporters when I wish Sammy the best of luck with his new club, and with Northern Ireland in Spain this summer. Christian De Brolio, Twickenham, Middlesex.

Chart-toppers

HERE'S my top ten football records!

- 1 I Go To Sleep — Arsenal supporters.
- 2 Physical — Martin Jol.
- 3 Don't You Want Me — Peter Barnes to Allan Clarke.
- 4 Let's Hang On — Northampton Town.
- 5 Money, Money, Money — Manchester United.
- 6 I Will Survive — Bristol City.
- 7 Don't Walk Away — Oxford United to Ian Greaves.
- 8 Green, Green Grass of Home — QPR.
- 9 I Could Be So Good For You — Glenn Hoddle to Ron Greenwood.
- 10 All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth — Steve McCall. Mitchell Marks, London.

SACRIFICED

I THOUGHT it was disgraceful that Bristol City should make loyal servants Trevor Tainton and Geoff Merrick the sacrificial lambs in the recent case where eight players were asked to take pay-offs or see the club close.

Backfired

In an age where loyalty to one club is very rare, and when it is easier for a player to make money from transferring to various teams, the loyalty of Tainton and Merrick has backfired on them.

These two players did not get Bristol City into trouble . . . bad management and a lack of ambition in the boardroom did. Why should the players suffer? Thomas Lynn, Middle Herrington, Sunderland.

£10
WINNER

Ex-City slickers

I HAVE compiled a team of former Manchester City players. They would take the First Division by storm. The team is:

Keith MacRae (Portland Timbers), Kenny Clements (Oldham), Tommy Booth (Preston), Mike Doyle (Bolton), Dave Watson (Stoke), Gary Owen (West Brom), Kазzy Deyna (San Diego), Brian Kidd (Bolton), Steve Mackenzie (West Brom), Steve Daley (Seattle), Peter Barnes (Leeds). Andrew Porter, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire.



Steve Mackenzie — he's in Andrew Porter's ex-Manchester City super team.

TERRACE TALK

VIVA VILLA!

IF Argentina are to retain the World Cup, manager Cesar Menotti must include Tottenham's Ricky Villa in his squad for Spain.

Villa, who scored a brilliant goal for Spurs in the FA Cup Final Replay last season, has been playing better than ever this season. He has added consistency to his other attributes — skill, speed, strength and powerful shooting.

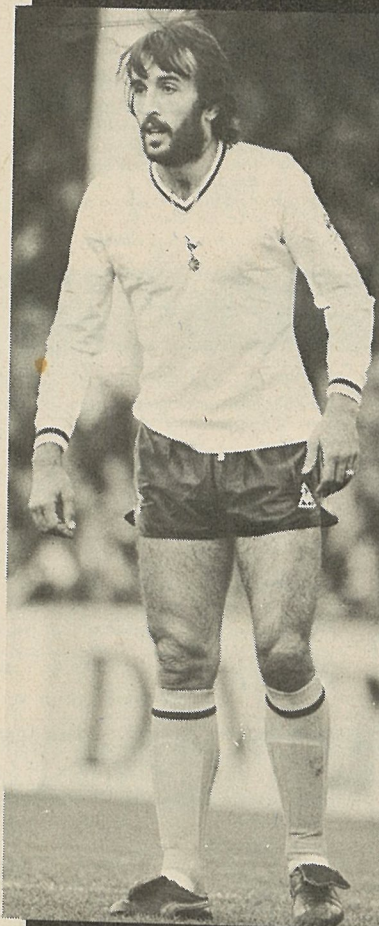
The Argentinian's hat-trick in the recent 6-0 thrashing of Wolves was really impressive. Menotti must find a place for him in his World Cup side.

Nick Parry, Urchfont, Wiltshire.

SWEET, HEARTS

RECENTLY, Hearts opened a special gate so that the unemployed could watch the game free.

More clubs should follow the example. If the unemployed fans are allowed to watch good football, they will be keen to become paying customers when they are employed once more. Andrew Diamond, Barnton, Edinburgh.



Ricky Villa — he must go to Spain says Nick Parry.

MIGHTY MINNOWS

IT WAS wrong of Colin Pogue to say in 'Terrace Talk' that non-League clubs should be banned from the FA Cup.

He said the 'minnows' were a waste of time. Colin comes from Gillingham. Perhaps he was anxious to see non-Leaguers barred from the Cup because the 'Gills' were beaten 2-0 by non-League Maidstone in the FA Cup last year!

And didn't Tottenham win the FA Cup in 1901 when they were a Southern League side?

I'm an Enfield supporter and every year I look forward to the FA Cup. It wouldn't be the same without the minnows. Mark Grainger, Enfield, Middlesex.

GOLDEN GOOF

ACCORDING to this newspaper report, Chris Garland has been playing so long that he could have been involved in that great European tie at Hastings . . . between England and the Normans in 1066!

This Golden Goof was sent in by Alan Blakemore of Sheffield.

Garland goes

Chris Garland is to sign for Bournemouth on a non-contract basis and could be in the team to face Stockport on Saturday. He is the first member of the Ashton Gate Eight to join a new club. Garland was with Bournemouth manager Dave Webb at Chelsea during the 1970s.

FASHANU MYSTERY

WHAT has happened to Justin Fashanu? Last season with Norwich he was one of the League's deadliest marksmen. But since his £1 million move to Nottingham Forest, he hasn't played a decent game.

Now Brian Clough has put Fashanu on the transfer list. What has gone wrong with this talented striker?

Perhaps a change of club might put Fashanu back among the goals. Stephen Hagart (13), Farnham, Surrey.

TERRACE TALK

. . . the letters page with something to say. Send your points of view to 'Terrace Talk', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough.

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Match writer Anthony Hawkswell talks to the young star currently battling to break into one of the strongest midfields in the country . . .

MAKE WAY

FOR MIKE!

SPURS' League Cup hero Mike Hazard wants Argentinian aces Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa to leave White Hart Lane!

But there's no bad feeling between the young midfielder and the talented duo.

Mike just accepts that while they are there, he's got no chance of establishing himself at Spurs.

Mike, who sent Spurs to Wembley with the only goal of the League Cup Semi-Final tie against West Brom, admitted: "I'll have to wait for them to leave before I get a regular place.

"It's no disgrace being behind players of the quality of Glenn Hoddle, Ossie and Ricky, but it can be very frustrating.

"With that trio in midfield, it's impossible to break into the side. My only hope is if Ossie and Ricky leave and that's a possibility because they are nearing the end of their contracts.

"Obviously it would be a great loss to the club and they wouldn't want to lose them, but from a selfish point of view it would do my career good."

Mike got an extended run in the first team

Hazard wants Argentine duo to leave . . .

earlier this season when Ricky was sidelined through injury and he popped up with some valuable goals for the title-chasers.

His most important goal came in the League Cup tie against West Brom, but even that won't guarantee him a place in the Final.

"I'll be so disappointed if I don't make the team, but I realise that if all three midfielders are fit, the most I can hope for is a place on the substitute's bench."

Mike's goals for Spurs — seven up to their League meeting with Manchester City — has come as a surprise to the Sunderland-born youngster.

Rarity

"When I was playing regularly in the reserves, I didn't score many goals. It got to the stage where a goal for me was a rarity.

"But when I've deputised for Ricky, I've been able to push up more and found myself in scoring positions. I've never doubted my ability as a finisher," added Mike.

"I haven't found any difficulty settling into the team. It's always easier when the side is playing well.

"There's a brilliant atmosphere in the club at the moment because everything is going well. Everyone is buoyant and confident and that helps you settle."

But there's been no chance for manager Keith Burkinshaw to ease his young starlet into the first team this season.

Mike explained: "Because we're involved in so many competitions, every game we play is a big one. But I'm not feeling any extra pressure. I'm enjoying my spells in the side.

"The team is playing together so well now — more solid as a unit. In previous seasons we used to beat the better clubs and lose to the lesser teams. Now we've learnt to battle."

Mike, who's 22, made his League debut for



Mike Hazard — "My only hope is if Ossie and Ricky leave."

Spurs back in 1980 against Everton, but until this season had failed to make his mark.

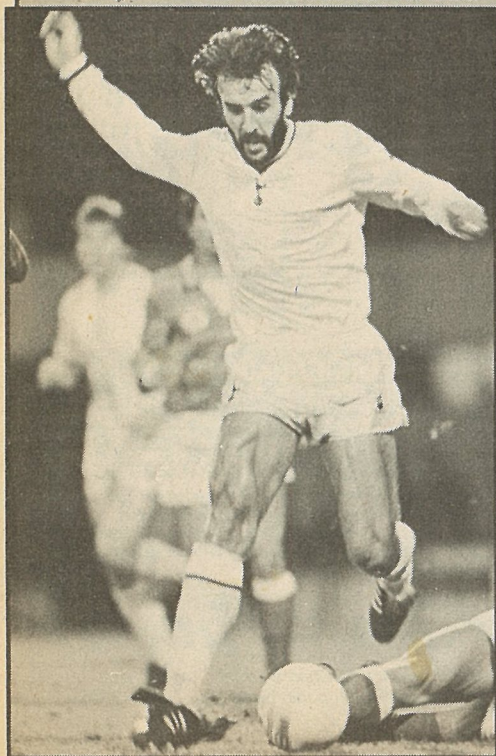
And after just two League outings last term, Mike's frustration boiled over and he was on the verge of quitting the club in the close season.

"My attitude was really bad. I adopted a couldn't-care-less attitude because I didn't seem to be making any progress at the club.

"But a chat with manager Keith Burkinshaw soon put me right and I was happy to sign another contract. Now I'm glad I did."

"In fact, the management have been great to me during my six years at the club because I've given them a fair bit of trouble," admitted Mike. "Not least running home to the North East six times."

But Spur's patience is now paying off and Mike is showing that if and when the Argentinians do finally leave Spurs, they've got at least one more than capable replacement.



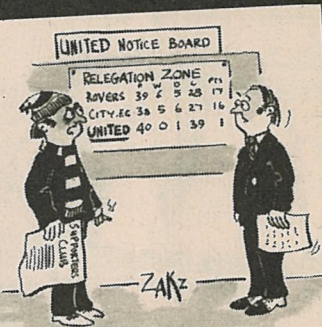
Left: Ricky Villa — his presence helps keep Mike Hazard on the sidelines at Spurs.

IF you know any good football jokes send them in. We'll pay £2 for each one we publish. Write to: Football Funnies, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 8DJ.

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FOOTBALL CRAZY

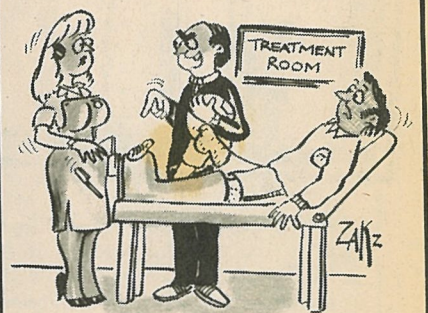
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by MITCH



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ROTHERHAM ROCKET MEN!

THE race to be the top dog in South Yorkshire is really hotting up.

A few weeks ago, the field was left to Barnsley and Sheffield Wednesday who were neck and neck in the battle for promotion from the Second Division.

Now those two well-supported clubs are peering anxiously over their shoulders at a remarkable blindside run being made by their less conspicuous neighbours Rotherham.

At the beginning of February, Rotherham were right in the thick of the relegation area without an away win and facing the dark prospect of a quick return to the Third Division.

But seven wins on the trot in just over three weeks has transformed the atmosphere at Millmoor and shot the Third Division Champions to the very edge of the promotion fray.

It's an amazing change in fortune which is illustrated by the comments of winger Tony Towner.

The former Brighton and Millwall forward says: "A few weeks ago we were dreading the next game because of our lowly position.

"We were knocked out of the Cup at Sunderland and then lost at Blackburn. That was when we reached our lowest point.

"But now we just can't wait for the next game, such has been the change."

So it seems that former England and Liverpool skipper Emlyn Hughes has risen to the challenge of his first major crisis as a manager.

Certainly his signing of experienced Manchester City midfielder Gerry Gow appears to have done the trick.

Tony feels that the arrival of the

Focus on the team that has been transformed from relegation candidates to promotion prospects

former Bristol City skipper at the end of January has made all the difference.

"There's no doubt that the boss has produced a real winner with Gerry.

"We badly needed a new face and Gerry has brought some experience to the side.

"We were tending to run around too much in midfield, but Gerry has the experience to slow things down when necessary and the younger players have responded.

"About half the side had never played in the Second Division and it has taken some time for them to adjust.

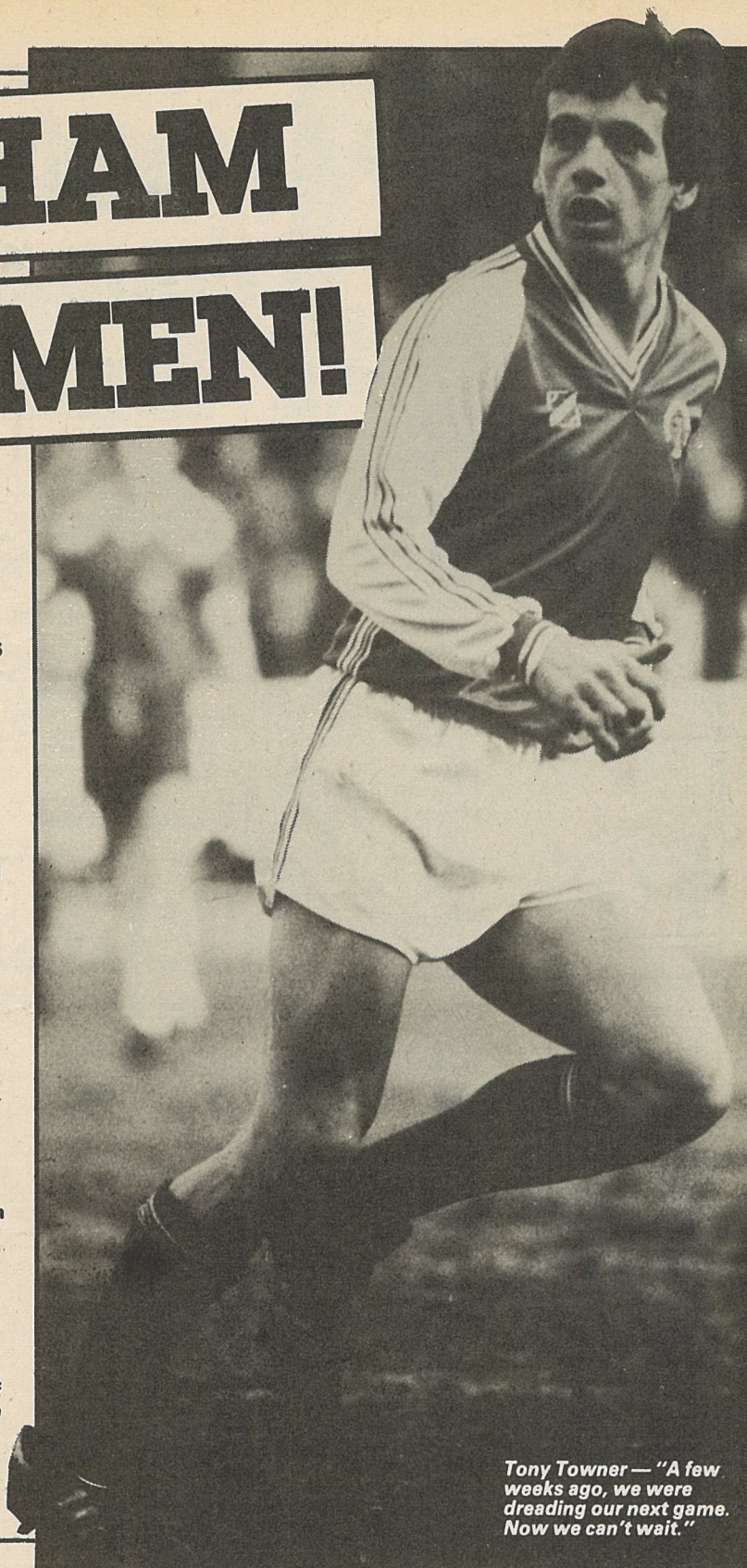
"They found out that you are punished more often for mistakes whereas in the Third Division you could probably make two or three without any problems.

"And the manager himself has also been a major influence during the successful run when he came into the side at right-back and then in midfield.

"While we always felt we were good enough for the Second Division, it was worrying to be around the relegation area.

"Now we are at the other end of the table and looking for a place in the top three.

"There is a long way to go, but if we can maintain the form we have shown since the beginning of last month, then who knows what might happen."



Tony Towner — "A few weeks ago, we were dreading our next game. Now we can't wait."

BRENTFORD, West Ham and Wimbledon are my favourite teams. I'd like a pen pal who supports any Third or Fourth Division team.
Dawn Rees (12), 43 Mill Farm Crescent, Hounslow, Middlesex.

MY hobbies are supporting Spurs and collecting programme stamps. I'd like

a female pen pal from London.
John O'Donnell, 120 Vanguard Street, Drunry, Clydebank, Dumbartonshire.

I'M a 17-year-old Nottingham Forest fan and would like a pen pal from anywhere in Europe.
Peter Jones, 16 East Road, East Dene, Rotherham, Yorks, S65 2UX.

POLICE, and **ELO** are my favourite pop groups and Celtic and Derby County my top teams. I'd like a pen pal of my own age who goes to Derby matches.
Kevin McGinty (15), 7 Heaney Avenue, Pumpherston, Livingston, West Lothian.

I'd like a pen pal who supports any lower division team. I'm 11 and support Port Vale.
Kyle Walsh, 28 Ian Road, Newchapel, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

LETTER writing, playing football for Clitheroe Ladies and supporting Blackburn Rovers are my hobbies. I'd like a pen pal of my own age.
Jackie Parker (15), 12 Hillside Drive, West Bradford, Near Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 4TG.

CHESS, rugby, athletics and cricket are my hobbies alongside supporting Spurs. I'd like a pen pal of my own age.
Johnathon Watkins (14), 14 High Street, Stotfold, Hitchin, Herts.

Pen pals

England a danger says Brazil star

BRAZIL defender Junior believes his country is set to win the World Cup for a fourth time.

And he thinks England could be dangerous outsiders if they have their share of luck.

Junior, reckoned to be the best left-back in the world, says: "I don't think there will be too many surprises."

"The traditional countries will all do well again. There is nothing new or surprising in my predicting that the champions will come from Brazil, Argentina and West Germany."

"Spain, as the host country, will be dangerous and so too could England and Russia."

"But I have great confidence in our team. We play very well and I think we can win the cup."

Left: Brazil star Junior — "England could be dangerous outsiders."

MENOTTI MOVE

ARGENTINA manager Luis Cesar Menotti has been getting himself into hot water in the world of politics.

And, as a result of his outspoken comments against the military regime in the country, he is almost certain to move to a European club after the World Cup Finals.

Already Portugal's Benfica have been talked of as a likely target for the chain-smoking World Cup winning manager.

Spain squad announced

SPANISH boss Jose Santamaria has announced a list of 45 players from whom he will make his final selection of 22 for the World Cup Finals.

And his selection gives a good guide to the sort of team he is likely to choose when the tournament gets under way.

The team is almost certain to be based on the one that beat England 2-1 at Wembley last year with Arconada in goal; Camacho and Gordillo as full-backs; Tendillo as stopper; and Alesanco as sweeper; Alonso, Zamora and Sanchez in midfield; and Satrustegui, Ufarte and Juanito up front.

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Kempes to quit Argentina?

ACCORDING to sources in Buenos Aires, Mario Kempes, the man who blasted the goals that took Argentina to World Cup glory in 1978, wants to return to Spain after this summer's Finals.

He is reported to have said: "I want to get back and restart my career in Spain, and if it can be away from Valencia then all the better."

"I think this would also be a much more helpful thing for River Plate who are suffering serious economic problems."

River Plate still owe Valencia most of the massive fee they paid to bring Kempes back home.

His words are sure to send all the Spanish clubs reaching for their cheque books and keeping a close eye on his form in Spain.

Scrapbook

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Spying mission for Fazekas

HUNGARY manager Kalman Meszoly will be relying on experienced striker Laszlo Fazekas for some first hand information about the form of World Cup rivals Belgium.

Fazekas plays for Belgian club Anvers and Meszoly says: "Belgium are a good team, but we have a very good and famous spy in their camp with Fazekas playing there."

"He will tell us everything."

SCHUSTER IS OUT!

WEST German midfield star Bernd Schuster has declared himself a non-starter for the World Cup Finals.

Back in Germany from Barcelona for a major knee operation, he said: "I will get back much too late for the German team."

"For instance, I could not even think of getting back in time for Barcelona. And if I cannot do that then the question of the World Cup does not come into it."



MASSACRE OF THE MANAGERS!

THE managerial merry-go-round is in full swing.

Shock statistics show that there have been a staggering 63 changes at managerial level since the start of last season.

Even allowing for the fact that some clubs have seen more than one change, 54 of the League's 92 clubs have seen new bosses.

And the warning from former Wolves boss — John Barnwell — one of this season's most famous casualties — is that there are plenty more changes to come.

Says John, who finally 'terminated his employment' at Molineux in January following weeks of uncertainty: "I think we'll see wholesale changes at the end of this season.

"Club chairmen will sit and look at the situation now and say it's not worth making changes with so much of the season gone, but come next May we could see massive upheavals.

"The reason for so many changes is the insatiable desire for immediate success which exists in football today.

"And the poor financial situation only heightens the demand for people to become instant winners.

"The pressure is something you accept in the job, however.

"In my case, I made the decision to leave the Wolves job. When you are faced with intolerable working conditions you do something about it and the time was right for me to go.

"I had three years at Wolves at



"THE JOB'S YOURS, UNTIL YOU
LOSE A GAME!"

tremendous personal expense.

"You don't spend any time on your private life. Every bit of the day is spent sorting out other people's affairs.

"In my case, I gave a lot of time and energy to bringing on young players. Now someone else will get the benefit of that.

"But in many cases, managers are under such enormous pressure to get results



John Barnwell: "An insatiable desire for instant success exists in football today."

with the first team that building for the future goes by the wayside . . . and that's got to mean standards deteriorating in the long term."

Of course, the last big managerial upheaval concerned Midlands rivals Birmingham and Aston Villa — Jim Smith going out from St Andrews and Ron Saunders moving in after leaving Villa Park.

But says John: "What right have the Birmingham board to believe that Ron Saunders is going to bring about a massive improvement?"

"Any new manager moving in can usually get a team motivated again in the first few weeks, but Ron Saunders is going to face the same problems as Jim Smith. The structure remains the same.

"Forest manager Brian Clough has the extra ability to motivate the fans and so bring in extra cash for the club.

"But now he hasn't got cash to spend, he's finding life a little less easy on the pitch."

So the merry-go-round is sure to go on spinning and, at this present time, any number of managers are sure to be finding their 'hot seats' warmer than ever.

The table below shows you at-a-glance the various managerial changes at clubs up and down the country since the start of last season. Only officially appointed managers are included.

CLUB	OUT	IN			
Newcastle	Bill McGarry	Arthur Cox	Torquay	Mike Green	Frank O'Farrell
Leeds	Jimmy Adamson	Allan Clarke	Bolton	Stan Anderson	George Mulhall
Bristol City	Alan Dicks	Bob Houghton	Everton	Gordon Lee	Howard Kendall
Carlisle	Martin Harvey	Bob Stokoe	Middlesbrough	John Neal	Bobby Murdoch
Tranmere	John King	Bryan Hamilton	Blackburn	Howard Kendall	Bobby Saxton
Barnsley	Allan Clarke	Norman Hunter	Coventry	Gordon Milne	Dave Sexton
Chesterfield	Arthur Cox	Frank Barlow	Wrexham	Arfon Griffiths	Mel Sutton
Northampton	Clive Walker	Bill Dodgin	Gillingham	Gerry Summers	Keith Peacock
QPR	Tommy Docherty	Terry Venables	Coventry	Bobby Saxton	Bobby Moncur
Man. City	Tony Book	John Bond	Plymouth	Martin Peters	Ian Porterfield
Norwich	John Bond	Ken Brown	Sheff. Utd	Ian Porterfield	Emlyn Hughes
Crystal Palace	Terry Venables	Ernie Walley	Rotherham	Nobby Stiles	Tommy Docherty
Fulham	Bobby Campbell	Malcolm Macdonald	Preston	Alan Durban	Richie Barker
Swindon	Bobby Smith	John Trollope	Stoke	Alan Mullery	Mike Bailey
Crystal Palace	Ernie Walley	Malcolm Allison	Halifax	George Kirby	Mick Bullock
Millwall	George Petchey	Peter Anderson	Charlton	Mike Bailey	Alan Mullery
Oxford	Bill Asprey	Ian Greaves	Crewe	Tony Waddington	Arfon Griffiths
Bournemouth	Alec Stock	David Webb	Orient	Jimmy Bloomfield	Paul Went
Sheff. Utd.	Harry Haslam	Martin Peters	Orient	Paul Went	Ken Knighton
Crystal Palace	Malcolm Allison	Dario Gradi	Bristol Rovers	Terry Cooper	Bobby Gould
Wimbledon	Dario Gradi	Dave Bassett	Crystal Palace	Dario Gradi	
Aldershot	Tom McAnearney	Len Walker	Cardiff	Richie Morgan	Graham Williams
Wigan	Ian McNeil	Larry Lloyd	Preston	Tommy Docherty	Gordon Lee
Blackpool	Alan Ball	Allan Brown	York	Barry Lyons	Neil Martin
Bradford	George Mulhall	Roy McFarland	Walsall	Alan Buckle	Ian Greaves
Sunderland	Ken Knighton	Alan Durban	Bristol City	Bobby Houghton	
Chelsea	Geoff Hurst	John Neal	Wolves	John Barnwell	
Man. Utd	Dave Sexton	Ron Atkinson	Grimsby	George Kerr	
Mansfield	Mick Jones	Stuart Boam	Derby	Colin Addison	
			Oxford	Ian Greaves	
			Northampton	Bill Dodgin	
			Newport	Len Ashurst	Colin Addison
			Aston Villa	Ron Saunders	
			Birmingham	Jim Smith	Ron Saunders

SHEREWSBURY TOWN



Back row (left to right): Wayne Jones (trainer/physio), Dean Edwards, Paul Johnson, Steve Perks, Bob Wardle, Ross MacLaren, Mark Adams, Chic Bates. Middle row: Graham Hawkins (assistant manager), Bernard McNally, John

Dungworth, Jack Keay, Charlie Gibson, Carleton Leonard, Ian Atkins, Colin Griffin, Graham Turner (manager). Front row: Dave Tong, Steve Cross, Jake King, Paul Petts, Steve Biggins.